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Sales sensibility

Iain R Webb on how to get the best fashion out of the sales, **pages 12-13**

£64,500 holiday

Your chance to win a round-the-world trip for two, **page 30**

Plea from a diarist's heart

Keep it simple, Alan Coren tells the publishers of his 1995 diary, **page 14**

20P

THE TIMES

No. 65,149 WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 28 1994

Guinness ruling delayed 22 months

Judicial review threat forced Howard to act

BY MELVYN MARCKUS, CITY EDITOR

THE decision by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, to refer the cases of the "Guinness Four" to the Court of Appeal was taken 72 hours after legal proceedings demanding a judicial review were initiated against him.

Mr Howard, who has suffered a series of setbacks in the form of court rulings that he has exceeded his powers or acted unlawfully or unreasonably, faced the prospect of another judicial review because of his failure for almost two years to grant the original four defendants leave to appeal against their convictions.

Lawyers acting for Gerald Ronson, the property developer who served a six-month sentence for his role in the affair, launched proceedings against Mr Howard on December 19. The Home Secretary's belated decision to refer the cases to appeal came the following Thursday.

The application for a judicial review was made by Lord Mishcon, of solicitors Mishcon de Reya, acting on behalf of Mr Ronson after the Home Office had consistently refused to take action, despite claims that material evidence vital to the defence was withheld by the prosecution. Mishcon de Reya confirmed yesterday that legal steps had finally been taken after Mr Howard's prolonged delay in taking action.

Howard: action taken within 72 hours

In a statement to *The Times* the firm said: "On Monday 19 December, Mishcon de Reya, on behalf of Mr Gerald Ronson, lodged an application in the High Court for leave to bring proceedings for Judicial Review against the Home Secretary for failing after 22 months to come to a decision on the application which they had made on Mr Ronson's behalf to have his case referred to the Court of Appeal.

The decision of the Home Secretary to refer the case to the Court of Appeal followed within 72 hours."

It is understood that both Mishcon de Reya and solicitors Peters & Peters, acting for Anthony Parnes, the former stockbroker who was also convicted in the first Guinness trial, issued repeated requests to the Home Office for action on the appeals. An indication from the Home Office that a decision would be made by the end of November was not met.

Mr Howard's failure to act earlier over the appeals has been indirectly raised in Parliament by Lord Spens, a defendant in the second Guinness trial, which was abandoned by Mr Justice Henry. Asked to clarify "the average processing time" for such cases, Earl Ferrers said in a written reply in May: "In cases of alleged miscarriage of justice ... it is normally possible to reach a decision in six to eight weeks."

Mr Howard had to decide, under Section 17 of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968, whether the failure by the Serious Fraud Office to disclose the evidence could reasonably cause the Court of Appeal to allow the appeal. Mr George Staple, director of the SFO, has said that the SFO will fight the appeal, which could lead to multi-million pound compensation payments to Mr Parnes, Mr Ronson, Ernest Saunders, Guinness's former chairman, and consultant Jack Lyons.

News of the legal proceedings against Mr Howard follows *The Times*'s revelation that John Redwood, former Minister for Corporate Affairs, prevented the production of certain documents relating to the Guinness investigation through the use of a public interest immunity certificate issued in October 1989, during the run-up to what was dubbed the "Trial of the Century". In the event, two out of four trials were abandoned.

The certificate, designed to protect the national interest, refers to notes of various meetings held between DTI officials and DTI inspectors in January 1987, shortly after the Guinness investigation began. A specific note, dated January 13, 1987, also refers to discussions involving Mr Howard, who was then the DTI Minister, and John Wood, the former Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions.

Last month two judges ruled unfair the ability of the Home Secretary to deny convicted criminals access to new evidence considered by him when deciding whether to refer their cases back to the Court of Appeal.

Lord Justice Simon Brown, laying down new guidelines for the handling of cases of alleged miscarriage of justice, said such evidence should be disclosed to those seeking to have their convictions overturned before the Home Secretary reached his decision.

Emma Harris, who may have come into contact with the bacterium at a carol service

Yeltsin vows to crush Chechens but calls off Grozny raids

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

STAKING his political survival on victory in Chechenia, President Yeltsin told the Russian people in a television address yesterday that the armed forces would continue their campaign to crush separatists and "restore law and order" in the republic.

Russian troops remained bogged down north of the Chechen capital, Grozny, and most seem unwilling to advance further. The Interfax news agency reported yesterday that a fresh motorised infantry division is being sent to Chechenia from the Urals.

President Yeltsin declared categorically that no Russian republic has the right to secede from the Russian Federation. He called Chechenia "a massive threat to Russian stability" and "a main base for extremist and nationalistic forces".

The only softening of the Russian position was a promise to stop the bombing of Grozny, which has killed dozens of civilians and attracted international criticism. According to reports from the capital, no further raids on the city centre have taken place in the past two days. The Russian air force said yesterday that it planned to use laser-guided bombs against targets in the capital, but said that this has not been possible so far because of cloud and mist.

In an apparent attempt to gain Western sympathy for the military intervention, Mr Yeltsin said that the Chechen administration of President Dudayev had become a source of crime and banditry in Russia and the world, and had to be crushed.

Iran and Libya meanwhile urged the Muslim world yesterday to put pressure on Russia to stop "the massacre of the Muslim Chechen people". If the conflict continues, it could radicalise Muslim opinion in the former Soviet Union and in the Russian Federation itself.

Speaking directly to the Russian army, Mr Yeltsin said: "You have been sent to Chechenia to protect Russia's state interests, the interests of all peoples of our country". He asked them to "remember that the outrage of gangsterism in Chechenia is a dangerous threat to the whole of our country. Your own relatives can fall victim to it."

It is doubtful, however, whether many soldiers in Chechenia will find Mr Yeltsin's words convincing. Repeating earlier official claims, Mr Yeltsin said: "The first stage of the settlement of the crisis has been completed: the ring around Grozny is tight; the armed groups there have been blockaded."

Yeltsin: staking his survival on victory

According to correspondents on the ground, this is still far from the truth: the Russian army has not yet even captured the small town of Argun, east of Grozny, against

Continued on page 2, col 5

Chechens defiant, page 7
Leading article, page 15

Four priests shot in revenge for airline storming

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

FOUR priests were murdered in Algeria yesterday in an apparent revenge attack by Islamic terrorists after Monday's killing of four airliner hijackers in Marseilles.

The assassinations came less than 24-hours after French anti-terrorist police stormed an Air France jet, killed all four hijackers and rescued all 170 hostages.

The murder of the missionaries was a violent reminder that France remains in the front line of Algeria's civil war, as the country basked in the Marseilles operation's success. It became clear yesterday that the terrorists had planned to blow up the aircraft over Paris. They were overheard by passengers discussing their plan and two packets of dynamite were found aboard the Airbus.

According to the French Foreign Ministry, three of the priests were French and the other Belgian. They belonged to the White Fathers, a missionary organisation that works throughout Africa, and were based in the town of Tizi Ouzou in the Berber region of Kabylia.

A cook at the presbytery said that the killers, dressed as police, told the priests they were wanted at Tizi Ouzou police station. She told French television that the four were taken outside and shot.

The Foreign Ministry said it was "profoundly shocked and upset by this new act of barbarity". The French priests were named as Jean-Marie Chevillard, 69; Alain Dieulangard, 75, and Christian Chessel, 36. The Belgian was Charles Deckers, 70.

The killings bring to 25 the number of Frenchmen who have died in the latest Algerian conflict. Most of the murders have been carried out by the extremist Armed Islamic Group, the organisation that hijacked the Air France jet in Algiers on Saturday.

The terrorists blame France for propping up the military regime of President Zeroual of Algeria, and say they want to isolate their country from the international community.

Dynamite found, page 8
Charles Bremner, page 14

Shoppers jam credit lines

Bargain hunters were out in force throughout the country yesterday, spending so fast that credit card authorisation lines were overloaded. In stores with long queues staff pleading for cash payments.

In the North East, queues of cars tailed bumper to bumper for five miles to get to Europe's largest shopping complex, the Metro-Centre in Gateshead, Tyne and Wear. At 10am, when the doors opened, 15,000 waitings shoppers poured in; by closing time, a record 140,000 shoppers had been served.....Page 3

Blair's left turn on health policy

Tony Blair, the Labour leader, has made clear that he is to take an aggressively left-wing line on health, and will fight the Tories on hospital and bed closures rather than proposing new radical ideas. But health, he says, is the only area where he is prepared to "turn back the clock".....Page 2

Peter May dies

Peter May, former England cricket captain and the most elegant batsman of the post-war period of the side's greatness, died yesterday at 64. He was chairman of selectors from 1982 to 1988.....Pages 3, 22

Obituary, page 17

Five-year-old girl 'with a headache' dies of meningitis

BY EMMA WILKINS

A GIRL of five who complained of a headache after opening her Christmas presents died from a fatal strain of meningitis that has left her best friend critically ill in hospital.

Emma Harris, from Rottingdean, East Sussex, died on Boxing Day. It was feared she may have come into contact with meningitis at a carol concert at Rottingdean Church of England Primary School three days before Christmas.

Last night Sally and David Harris, her distraught parents, were comforting their other child, Adam, two.

"Emma was a much loved daughter and a beautiful little girl. We are devastated by her loss but will always treasure the happy memories we have of her. Her smile will forever be in our minds," Mr Harris said.

"We are immensely grateful for the much needed support we have received from the family, friends, the Rottingdean community and especially the church and Emma's school.

"We would also like to express our gratitude for the compassion of the staff at the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital."

Emma was at home opening her presents with the family, including her grandfather, Neville Palmer. "We were all here enjoying ourselves on Christmas Day. Emma was all right and then she started to complain of headaches," Mr Palmer said. "She was taken to hospital, but died very quickly. It is the most tragic thing."

Mr and Mrs Harris said their thoughts and prayers were with the parents of Alexandra Yates, who is seriously ill in Guy's Hospital, London, and was one of Emma's "dearest friends".

Alexandra, also from Rottingdean, is in a "critical but stable" condition in intensive care, a spokeswoman for Guy's Hospital said.

As families in the village monitored their children for the flu-like symptoms of meningitis, health officials were last night trying to contact one local family believed to be on holiday in the United States.

The girls, who were in their first year at school, attended a carol service on December 22 at St Margaret's Church with the school's 218 other pupils. A group of 60 children and adults who are considered most at risk have already been offered antibiotics, a spokesman for East Sussex Health Authority said.

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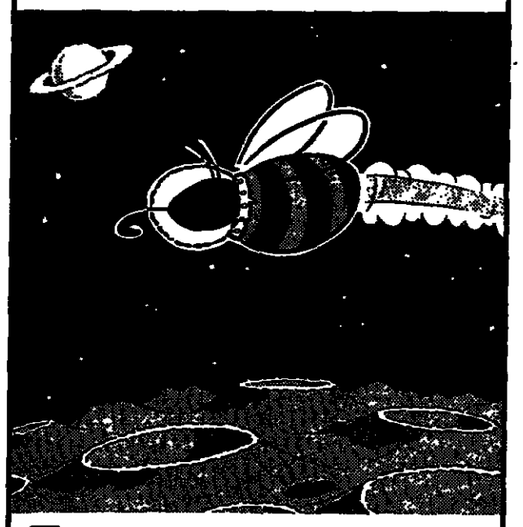

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Argentina's Christmas cards lost in the post

BY EVAN DYER IN BUENOS AIRES AND EVE-ANN PRENTICE

FALKLAND Islanders were baffled last night after Guido Di Tella, Argentina's Foreign Minister, was reported to have sent them Christmas greetings.

After sending cards, in English, to every household, it was reported in Argentine newspapers that Señor Di Tella telephoned the director of Port Stanley radio and a number of other prominent kelpers to wish them a happy holiday. David Tatham, the Governor, and islanders were bemused however, saying they had received no Christmas greetings, although Patrick Watt, head of Port Stanley radio, got a call from the Foreign Minister last week asking him to convey good wishes to the islanders.

Andrew Gerr, Chief Executive of the Falkland Islands Government, said: "No one here has had Chrismas cards. If he had sent them, it would not have made the slightest difference. People here are extremely cynical about Argentinian intentions." It is not known whether the cards would have been sent to addresses in "Las Malvinas" — as the postal service in Argentina knows the islands — or "The Falklands".

Last year a number of video cassettes of Pingu, the British animated cartoon were sent to the islanders, but many were thrown away.

Andres Cisneros, Argentina's Foreign Ministry Secretary-General, has meanwhile reacted optimistically to statements by John Major, in his Christmas message to the Falkland Islanders, that Britain would seek to explore offshore oil in the region "without creating insoluble difficulties with Argentina." Britain and Argentina are in the final round of negotiations for an accord that would permit British Gas and YPS, the Argentine oil giant, to exploit oil and gas deposits jointly. Buenos Aires officials had expressed fears that if the talks fail, Britain will authorise the islanders to begin unilateral explorations.

"We know that the principal oil companies of the world, who are the natural candidates for drilling permits or concessions, are working for ... an agreement," Señor Cisneros said. "It's not indifferent to them if Argentina comes out against unilateral British exploration."

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Mercury offers up to £40 for free calls that could not be made

BY JOE JOSEPH AND PHILIP PANGALOS

■ Mercury One-2-One has admitted misjudging how many Christmas Day free calls would be made by new subscribers

MERCURY One-2-One said yesterday that it had compensated, if maybe not fully placated, almost all "the few hundred" customers who called to complain after failing to get through to friends and relatives abroad under the mobile telephone network's free Christmas Day calls promotion.

Complainers are generally being offered between £20 and £40 off their next phone bill. The sums reflect Mercury's calculation that the average value of calls made by its new subscribers on Christmas Day was £41 per phone owner. Determined to play down the uproar and to distance itself from the fiasco of Hoover's free flights promotion, Mercury One-2-One is trumpeting the fact that in spite of "network congestion" over 80 per cent of those qualifying for the promotion used the Christmas Day service, making ten each on average.

"There are a handful of very vociferous complaining customers who are demanding thousands of pounds of compensation," Alan Thompson, a spokesman for Mercury One-2-One, said. "I believe that's unreasonable. I think that refunding the value of the phone and the service to them is fair. That would be the same as with any unsatisfactory Christmas present.

One-2-One was discussing ways of compensating disappointed customers but he added: "We do have some users who were on the phone for 13 to 14 hours. If one of them called us and said they couldn't make full use of the service, then I'm not sure compensation would be very appropriate in that case."

Mr Thompson said there had been only a few hundred complainers, "way, way less than 1 per cent of the customers who qualified for the Christmas promotion".

Moses Gerbi of north London, one of the thousands who bought a phone after One-2-One launched its "Call The World For Free" promotion on November 8, made his financial peace with Mercury yesterday. "We were planning to make a lot of calls. I'm Italian. My wife is Finnish, I have four children who wanted to call their friends in Italy and America."

His wife began dialling Finland at 7am on Christmas morning. "From then on we tried all day non-stop, all over the world. The children were persistent and tried constantly. We failed all day, though to be fair one call did get through to Florida, but this was only for a few minutes before the call got cut off."

When he got through to complain to One-2-One yesterday he found he could not get through to anyone important. "They just have a lot of junior people fending off angry customers. First they offered me £20 off my next bill. Then after consulting with someone she upped it to £30 and I couldn't be bothered to haggle, so I accepted."

Less transigent was Sally Pope, a sales manager from Camden, north London, who "had people in Jamaica, India, France, Belgium, America, Saudi Arabia, Greece and Sweden all expecting me to call" on the 25th. She feels cheated. "My Christmas has been completely ruined. I spent all day on that phone thinking I'm bound to get through in a minute." She complained and was eventually offered four months' free line rental and £25. "That's £75 in total. The calls I had planned would have cost a lot more than that. They've said I can just get my money back on the phone but that doesn't compensate me for the hassle I've had," she said.

Andrei Doicin, a software consultant from west London, also gave up trying to contact friends and relatives across Europe on Christmas Day on his One-2-One phone after his dialling finger grew sore and several hours elapsed fruitlessly. Yesterday he called to complain and was offered me £20 off his next bill. "I held out for more. I got £25. It's better than nothing."

At One-2-One, the promotion was hailed as a success. "I don't think anybody's denying we made some error of judgment in the area of forecasts," Mr Thompson said. "We didn't expect anyone to be on the phone for 13 hours. Maybe we should have."

Blair vows to turn back the clock on NHS reforms

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR has decided to take an aggressively left-wing line on health policy and fight the Tories on hospital and bed closures rather than proposing new radical ideas.

In stark contrast to issues such as the economy, education and law and order, where the Labour leader wants to attract Tory voters by moving towards the right, Mr Blair has made clear that health is the only area where he is prepared to "turn back the clock". In the new year the shadow health team will mount an offensive against hospital closures in London and bed closures, as hospitals run out of money. A new policy document will be drawn up in March which is expected to propose the abolition of GP fund-holding and NHS trust boards.

Mr Blair's tactics will delight leftwingers in the party, many of whom have been angered by his lurch towards the Right. But modernisers fear that the Tories will seize on the new strategy and accuse Mr Blair of caving in to the Left's demands.

Mr Blair believes that Labour should revert to old-style campaigning to underline the differences between Labour and the Tories. "We are going back on to the attack," one Shadow Cabinet minister said. "All our polling suggests that the public are interested in closures, nepotism, corruption and whistle-blowers rather than the NHS reforms."

However some modernising MPs are concerned that the Tories will immediately claim that Labour is in cahoots with the trade unions, raising the spectre of the 1978-79 winter of discontent and months of industrial action in the NHS. They also argue that the new Labour party should not go backwards in any policy area.

Health has always been one of Labour's strongest cards, although the party mismanaged the issue at the last general election. Mr Blair specifically appointed Margaret Beckett, who fought her leadership campaign on a left-wing ticket, as Shadow Health Secretary after deciding to return to traditional Labour ground on health.

"People will accuse us of not being radical enough," one party source said. "But we are defending our grandparents' radical vision. We need to go back to the principles of a post-war setting and apply these to the 21st century."

☐ Paddy Ashdown gave a firm indication yesterday that he would favour a centre-left coalition with Labour in the event of a hung parliament after the next general election.

The Liberal Democrat leader cast off the neutral position he has always tried to maintain between Labour and the Tories as he claimed that his party could be "the backbone for the forces to change".

But he made clear that the Labour Party as a whole would have to support the new direction now being taken by its leader Tony Blair. "Provided we can go on leading the ideas agenda we can be the backbone for the forces of change in this country," he said on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme.

Left angry at plan to tax graduates

BY OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A LABOUR proposal that graduates should be taxed to help to pay for their university education sparked anger on the Left yesterday.

Ken Livingstone, MP for Brent East, said: "John Smith rejected this scheme. There is no reason why Tony Blair should accept it."

Leftwingers accused the Labour leader of ignoring the views of the party in his efforts to press ahead with radical policies on education. Some frontbenchers gave warning that the plan might deter poorer students from opting for higher education.

Under the plan being studied by David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, graduates would have to pay extra income tax or National Insurance contributions once their income reached a certain level. Mr Livingstone said it would penalise those who went into lower-paid jobs such as teaching. Jeremy Corbyn, MP for Islington North, accused Mr Blair of seeking to float ideas associated with the Social Democratic Party: "There has been no public debate in the party. Labour has always been a party of universal free education."

Sources close to Mr Blair emphasised that several options were being considered and that any scheme would have to ensure that higher education was free at the point of use. Bryan Davies, Labour's spokesman on higher education, confirmed on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme that he and Mr Blunkett were looking at plans to replace the present "unfair" student loan system.

Samaritans throw computer lifeline to Internetters

BY ANJANA AHUJA

THE Samaritans can now be contacted by electronic mail via computer. A six-month experiment by the charity's Cheltenham branch has proved so successful that it plans to connect more of its 201 branches to the Internet, the worldwide network of computers.

"We are committed to offering another choice to people who, for whatever reason, do not feel able to use the more normal methods of communication," Mike Haines, director of the Samaritans in Cheltenham, said. The Bracknell branch in Berkshire will go online next month.

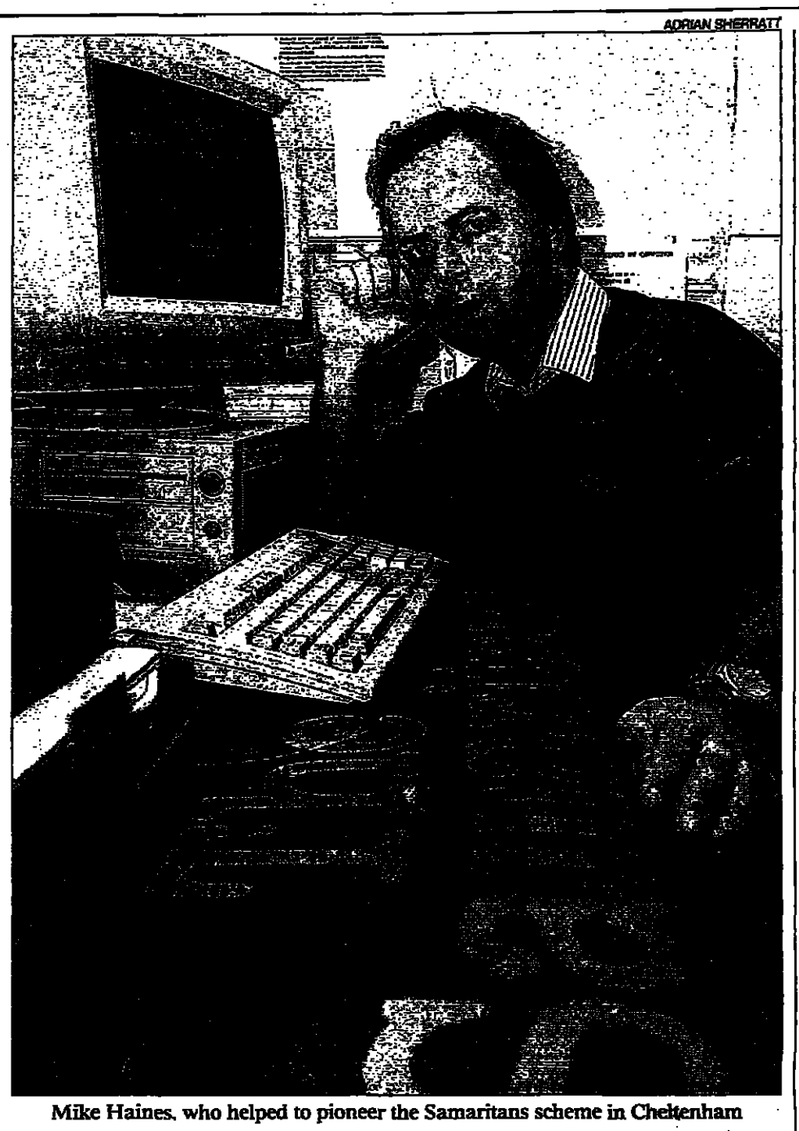
Users can send E-mail messages to the Samaritans' address (Jo@samaritans.org). All come through to the Cheltenham branch, which guarantees replies within 24 hours from one of a dozen trained volunteers.

Security is paramount and the modem that connects the Samaritans to the Internet is capable of detecting unauthorised attempts to read messages. Nobody has tried to break into the system so far but the organisation is already looking at ways of encrypting messages and replies.

Of the 214 people who made contact through the Internet in the four months up to November, 73 per cent had considered suicide. In comparison, the proportion of telephone callers to the Samaritans who admit to feeling suicidal is 23 per cent.

"Some people just cannot talk on the phone or would rather not talk. Sometimes they cannot talk physically or mentally. Internet seems to be reaching more disabled people than we would do normally," Mr Haines said.

ADRIAN SHERRATT



Mike Haines, who helped to pioneer the Samaritans scheme in Cheltenham

"There are also a lot of people who can only communicate through a VDU and a keyboard."

One unplanned but important spin-off has been access to the highest risk category for suicides — men aged between 24 and 40. Experts estimate that nine out ten Internet users are male.

Despite propelling itself into the electronic age, the charity insists the human touch will never become extinct. "The Samaritans will never become a bank of keyboard operators," Mr Haines said.

☐ **A anonymous pornography campaigner has let loose a computer virus that police have nicknamed Electronic VD because it is aimed at those using the Internet system to disseminate pornographic material (Robin Young writes). The unknown subscriber, who could be based anywhere in the world, has planted suggestively named files that can corrupt the information stored on the hard disks of the home computers of all who try to download them. All that is needed to access the Internet is a subscription to a "gateway" company and a modem, which can be bought for as little as £140.**

Computer pornography is known to be a booming business, and children have been found in their school playgrounds swapping computer disks loaded with images taken from the Internet.

New hint that Hurd may step down next year

BY JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS HURD yesterday gave his firmest indication yet that he intends to step down as Foreign Secretary next year. Speculation has increased in recent months that Mr Hurd will leave office well before the next general election and could go in a reshuffle next summer.

Pressed yesterday on whether he wanted to continue in the post for the lifetime of the present Government, he pointedly declined to look beyond the end of 1995. "It is for the Prime Minister to decide these things and inasmuch as my wishes are a part of it I haven't taken any decision," he told BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme. "What I do see are things that I want to do in 1995 and if the Prime Minister wants me to do them I will go on doing them."

His departure next year would allow a successor to be appointed before the build-up to the 1996 inter-governmental conference on Europe. A number of successors have already been tipped, including Malcolm Rifkind, Sir Patrick Mayhew and Ian Lang. The Tory right is also pushing Michael Howard and Jonathan Aitken.

In the same interview Mr Hurd appeared to retreat on the idea of a referendum on Europe. In the past few weeks the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary have held out the prospect of a referendum after the inter-governmental conference.

Mr Hurd, a Euro-enthusiast, has not favoured referendums in the past, and yesterday he said it was highly unlikely that Britain would be faced with fundamental constitutional change requiring a referendum as a result of the conference.

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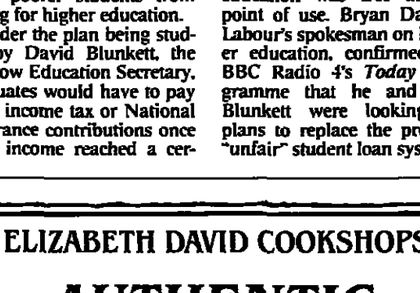

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Marines plan 1997 Hong Kong exercise

Defence chiefs are planning high-profile military operations in the Far East to coincide with the handover of Hong Kong to China in 1997. The exercises are designed to underline British commitment to the region and help to raise morale as the colony is transferred to rule from Peking.

The Pacific Rim has become a keen area for British arms sales and billions of pounds worth of business is expected well into the next century. The morale-boosting exercises will include an amphibious task force with Royal Marine commandos, the 12,000-ton amphibious assault ship *Fearless*, a logistic landing ship, a frigate and other vessels. "Britain will show the flag in a powerful way just as Hong Kong is being handed over," a senior defence source said.

MoD tests queried

Labour yesterday demanded details about animal experimentation by the Ministry of Defence. Derek Fatchett, a Labour defence spokesman, said the total number of animal experiments in Britain dropped from 3.24 million to 2.92 million — a 10 per cent fall — last year. But experiments in MoD establishments rose by 51 per cent from 4,500 to 6,796.

Hunt for sex attacker

Police are hunting a man who kidnapped a six-year-old boy from Feltham, west London, and sexually assaulted him before abandoning him 30 miles away near Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. The boy was playing near his home on Boxing Day when he was snatched. He was led to a nearby shed where the attack took place.

Unison staff win £23m

Unison, Britain's biggest union, won £23 million in compensation for 4,200 of its members injured at work this year. Some received awards of more than £100,000. But Alan Jinkinson, Unison general secretary, said the awards could never compensate members for the damage to their health and job prospects.

Mother pleads to son

The mother of Phillip Manning has pleaded for her son — sought by police after Margaret Whitcombe, his ex-wife, was shot dead in front of their 11-year-old son — to give himself up. Sylvia Edwards was hoping that Mr Manning, 41, would call her. He phoned her after the incident on Christmas Day in which Mrs Whitcombe's boyfriend was stabbed.

Yeltsin vow

Continued from page 1

which they launched an offensive last Friday.

One Western correspondent, recently back from Grozny, said: "If Yeltsin really believes what he is saying about the situation on the ground, he is living in wonderland. If he doesn't believe it, he will have to make it come true quickly, or the Russian people are going to find out that they are being lied to".

In an attempt to discredit growing press criticism of the intervention, and perhaps prepare the way for increased censorship, Mr Yeltsin said: "I am aware that Chechen money is involved in the functioning of some mass media in Russia."

The impression is growing in Moscow that President Yeltsin is in the deepest possible political trouble over Chechenia, and his survival as President is threatened. The overwhelming majority of parliament opposes him, partly because recent opinion polls show that 75 per cent of Russians now disapprove of the Yeltsin presidency. Defeat would be disastrous.

Some of the most senior and respected figures in the Russian military establishment, including General Boris Gromov, General Aleksandr Lebed and General Eduard Voroblyov, have publicly criticised the intervention. Their feelings have clearly spread to the troops on the ground. Much of the Russian army in the republic remains, in effect, in a state of mutiny.

The planning of the Chechen operation, and the deficient quality and numbers of the units involved has starkly revealed the decline of the Russian armed forces and the incompetence and corruption of the Defence Ministry.

Chechens defiant, page 7
Leading article, page 15

Doctor, 27, found strangled in flat

BY LIN JENKINS

A YOUNG doctor has been found murdered in her north London home. Joan Francisco was found strangled at the bottom of the stairs in her basement flat on Boxing Day.

Dr Francisco, 27, should have been flying to America for a Christmas celebration with her two sisters. A post-mortem examination yesterday showed that she had been strangled.

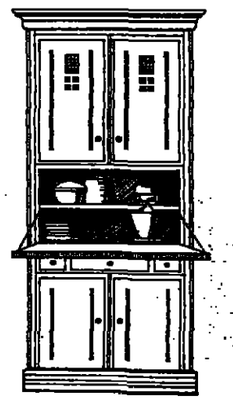
A rear door to the property in St John's Wood had been left open and the bedroom had been ransacked but police said they had not yet established if anything had been taken.

Dr Francisco's mother Venus raised the alarm when her daughter failed to keep an arrangement to call on her en route to Heathrow. Dr Francisco had been booked on the 2pm flight to Los Angeles.

A police forensic team spent yesterday examining the flat, and officers made door-to-door inquiries. Detective Superintendent Phil Beebe, who is leading the inquiry, said: "This is an absolute tragedy — a young woman with a bright future strangled in her own flat." He said there was no evidence of sexual assault. One theory being examined is that Dr Francisco, who was due to start a new job at the Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel, next month after working as a locum, was killed when a burglary went wrong.

Mr Beebe said that Dr Francisco's sisters had now flown over from America to be with their mother.

SMALLBONE of DEVIZES



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Police marksmen kill quick-draw champion

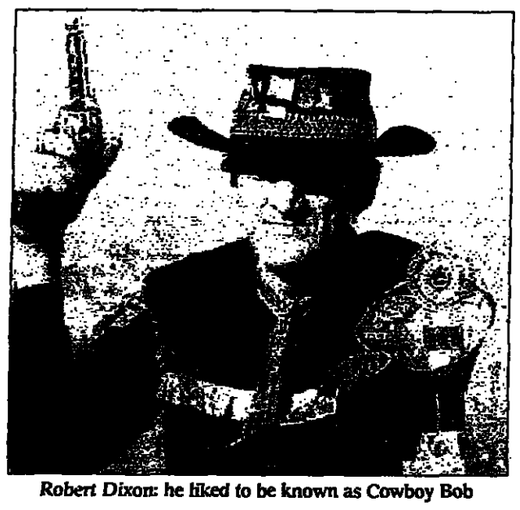
BY KATE ALDERSON

POLICE marksmen shot and killed a 44-year-old "quick-draw" gun champion on his doorstep yesterday after he brandished a silver handgun, threatened to "blow them away" and fired one or two shots. Robert Dixon, a former soldier nicknamed "Cowboy Bob", died at his home in Golcar, Huddersfield, in the early hours of yesterday morning. An independent inquiry was immediately launched by the Police Complaints Authority as a routine procedure.

Maureen Dixon, 55, the dead man's disabled wife, watched as marksmen surrounded the house and ordered her husband to lay down his arms. It is not known whether Mr Dixon, who had no children and had been married for 16 years, was carrying the replica gun with which he had won a number of quick-draw titles.

Bill Hughes, Assistant Chief Constable of West Yorkshire Police, said he was satisfied that his officers, ranking no higher than constable, had followed correct procedures. He had given authority for officers to draw their weapons in consultation with Chief Superintendent Allan Dobson, Divisional Commander.

He said: "I am content that the procedures were dealt with properly and officers acted properly but that is now a decision for the coroner and the independent Police Complaints Authority." A senior police officer, Chief Superintendent Geoff Ogden from the Humberside Constabulary, has been appointed to investigate the shooting on behalf of the PCA. Events leading up to the incident at 4.00am yesterday began at about 12.30am when a man telephoned police and told them that shots were being fired in the Golcar area. The caller said he recognised the man and that he was carrying a silver pistol in his belt.



Robert Dixon: he liked to be known as Cowboy Bob

Police inquiries established that Mr Dixon had been drinking at the Golcar Entertainment Centre that evening, where he regularly worked behind the bar, and had been trying to sell a silver-coloured revolver and ammunition. At 2.42am two armed-response vehicles with four armed officers were sent to Mr Dixon's home in Maple Avenue and five unarmed officers were positioned further down the street. "Mr Dixon came to the door and was challenged by the officers but after shouting at the policeman he returned inside the house," Mr Hughes said. "Moments later, at about 4.00am, Mr Dixon came back to the door, pointed a gun and fired one or two shots at the officers. They returned fire and Mr Dixon fell back into the house. Five shots were fired by the police officers." No police officers were injured and it is not yet known how many bullets hit Mr Dixon. A post-mortem examination was being carried out yesterday afternoon and the weapon was undergoing tests. Police said it was too early to say if it was a replica or not.

Mrs Dixon, who was disabled by a car accident a few years ago and was cared for by her husband, who came originally from the Brixton area of south London, is receiving counselling for shock. Mr Hughes said: "Our sympathies are clearly with her at this tragic time."

Dave Fountain, 24, told how he saw armed officers surround Mr Dixon's bungalow and try to coax him out of the house. "Finally the bloke came out," Mr Fountain said. "He had a gun in his left hand, pointing at the ground." Mr Dixon told the officers he was going to "blow them away", Mr Fountain said.

The incident is the third fatal shooting in the county by police since 1992. Ian Bennett was shot dead as he waved a replica gun from his window in Brighouse on New Year's Day 1992. Joseph Cowlan was shot by police after he fired at them from the doorway of his house in Birkby, Huddersfield. He was seriously wounded and later died of a heart attack.

☐ A gunman shot by police in north London as he allegedly tried to snatch a baby girl was taken off the danger list in the Royal London Hospital yesterday. The man was shot after he opened fire on police and wounded a WPC in the calf. Scotland Yard said the officer was recovering.

TONY WHITE

A shopper defies the elements in Bromley, southeast London, yesterday

Sales fever jams credit card lines

BY ROBIN YOUNG

BARGAIN hunters were out in force yesterday, spending so fast that credit card authorisation lines were overloaded. In stores with long queues staff were pleading for cash payment, and astonished at the vast sums thrust towards them. "One man in our Tottenham Court Road store in central London paid £2,500 in notes," a spokeswoman for the Maples furniture chain said.

More than 1,000 people were waiting outside Selfridge's in Oxford Street before 9am, and shoppers were sprinting from store to store as the sales opened. The fiercest competition was in Selfridge's china and glass departments, where goods were on sale at 80 per cent off.

At Charlotte's Embroidery, near Marble Arch, a French holidaymaker was first through the door and bought a leather coat reduced from £200 to £1. Twenty-four others who had been in the queue were offered £1 teddy bears as consolation.

Martin Barnett, who represents 366 traders in the Marble Arch Traders' Association, said: "There is a lot of stock in the shops. For the first time in many years, there are genuine bargains and not a lot of stuff brought in specially for the sales."

In the North East queues of cars crawled bumper to bumper for five miles to get to Europe's largest shopping complex, the MetroCentre in Gateshead, Tyne and Wear. By closing time, a record 140,000 shoppers had been served.

At Barker and Stonehouse, a family-run furniture firm with showrooms in Newcastle, Middlesbrough and Darlington, a man who had queued for 27 hours paid £49 for a dining room table and chairs previously priced at £2,300.

In Cheltenham, by contrast, Robert Watkins camped all night to be first in the queue at Harvey's furniture store, but found that only four other shoppers joined him before the doors opened.

Peter May, gentleman and gentle man of cricket, dies

BY SIMON WILDE

IT COULD not have been more poignant. On a day on which England's professional cricketers were once again exhibiting their amateurishness in Melbourne, the country's last amateur captain — a man noted for his thorough professionalism — passed away. Peter May, sporting gentleman and gentle man, died yesterday at the age of 64.

May was arguably the finest batsman England has produced since the war. Undoubtedly he was the last of a line. Dexter, Brearley, Gower and Atherton may have shared his Oxbridge education, or even his elegant strokeplay, but none matched the spirit of his play. He was a natural.

May excelled at many games but at cricket he displayed special gifts. He scored a century for Charterhouse against Harrow at 14, played for the Gentlemen as an undergraduate at Cambridge, scored a hundred on his first appearance for England and was captaining his country at the age of 25.

As leader of an outstanding England team he forged a record without parallel. Before ill health forced him to retire while in his early 30s, he captained his country in 41 Test matches, winning 20 and losing only 10. Australia, South Africa, West Indies and New Zealand were all beaten.

He was fortunate to have at his disposal perhaps the strongest bowling attack England have ever had — it included Trueman, Statham, Laker and Lock — but he was also adept at making the most of their considerable skills. He also led Surrey to the last two of their seven successive championships.

On leaving cricket, he took up a career in the City amid rumours that his decision to quit the game was partly motivated by the fact that cricket was rapidly changing. In 1962, the year he announced his retirement, the distinction between amateur and professional was abolished. May batted with all the flair and elegance one would expect of his type, hitting the ball hard, playing gloriously through the covers, standing upright at the crease.

May: forged England record without parallel

He created an air of anticipation among crowds. His career average of 51 and Test average of 46.77 spoke of his class. He scored 27,592 runs, 4,537 of them for England.

Richie Benaud, who opposed May as captain of Australia, said yesterday: "He was fiercely determined. No-one was more determined. He was also an outstanding captain.

"But he was also self-effacing and was never one to push himself forward — not quite in keeping with the modern trend."

John Major, the Prime Minister, said: "Peter May was one of the greatest batsmen English cricket has ever produced. He played cricket and life in a way few people could match."

Unexpectedly, May agreed to act as chairman of England selectors for a second spell from 1982 to 1988.

If he had felt out of step 20 years earlier, he found himself presiding over a completely different game. He was dealing with cricketers who were ill equipped technically and temperamentally, and who lost all too often.

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Test report, page 19
Tributes, page 22

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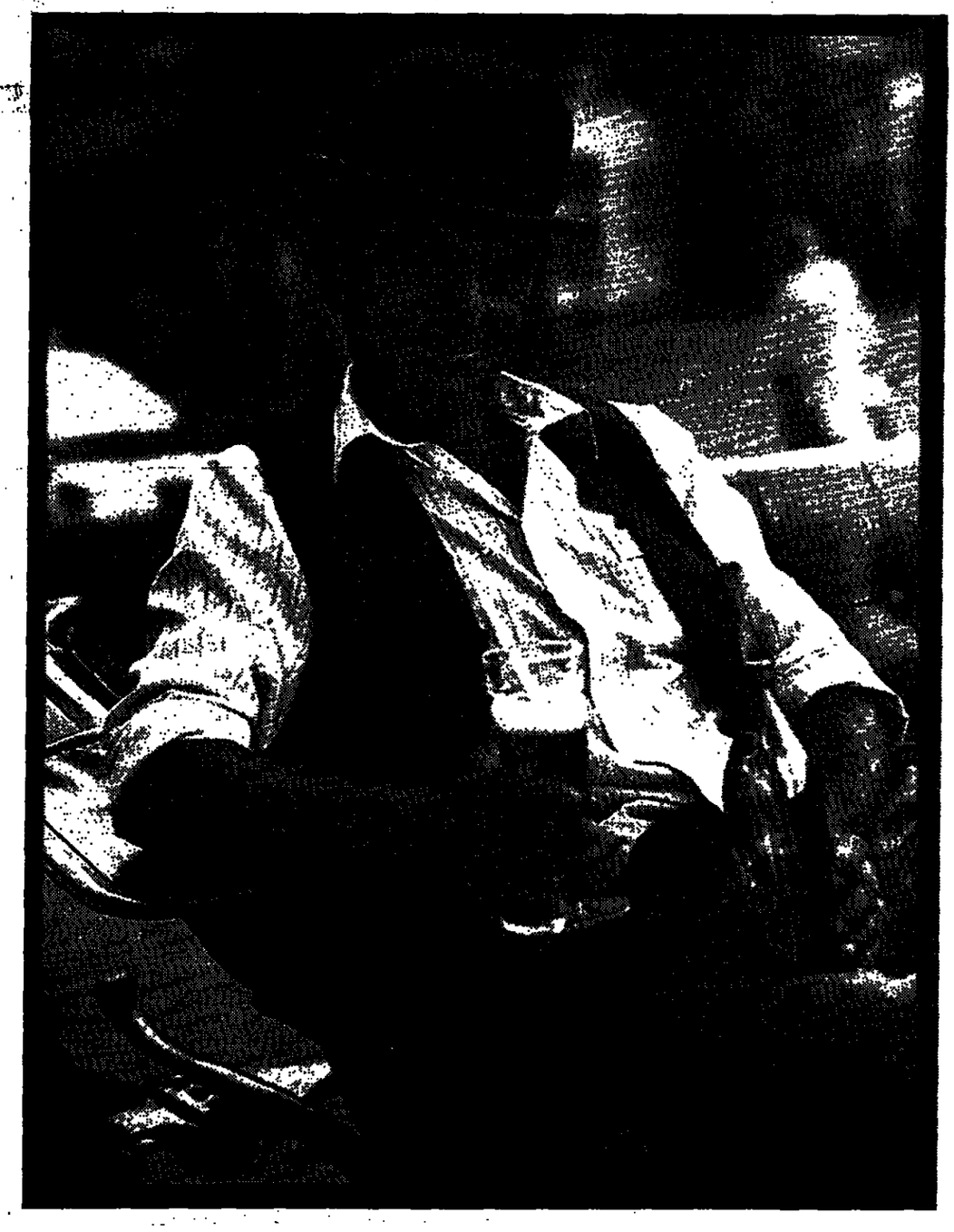

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IN

WEEKEND

Taxi driver killed in fight at cab rank

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

AN ASIAN taxi driver was stabbed to death yesterday during a fight between 20 or 30 men at a cab rank in Luton. Three other Asian men were also injured in the struggle, which is being linked to a long-running dispute among drivers.

Trouble flared outside a bar, part of a local hotel in the town, as some stores prepared for the post-Christmas sales. All the victims were taken to the Luton and Dunstable Hospital but Mohammed Shabir was dead on arrival. The other three victims were treated for wounds to the back and wrist. Police were later searching for a murder weapon.

Taxi drivers in the town confirmed yesterday that there had been a history of trouble between certain drivers who used the rank to pick up shoppers. Last night a police spokesman said that an appeal was expected to be made today for the town's large Asian community to remain calm.

A levels undergoing 'revolution by stealth'

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

■ Continuous assessment modular courses with low failure rates are prompting concern that exam standards may be diminished

A-LEVEL examinations, the gold standard of the education system, are undergoing a "revolution by stealth" as hundreds of schools switch to new courses with low failure rates.

The growing popularity of modular A-level courses with continuous assessment is transforming an examination that ministers have pledged to defend as the benchmark. Statistics obtained by *The Times* show that more than half of A-level courses in mathematics, science, geography, politics and modern languages are modular.

Unlike conventional A levels, in modular courses the final examinations are worth only 30 per cent of the overall marks. Pupils can be assessed on each term's work with their examination papers marked externally. The examinations they take during the school year are conducted under the same conditions as the conventional A levels but if a pupil is unhappy with their mark he or she can retake the exam as often as they wish.

The new courses give students four years to complete up to six modules, or mini-courses. The structure aims to encourage academic achievement, boost motivation and reduce the 20 per cent failure rate at conventional A level.

Modular courses also offer increased subject flexibility. Students starting a science course could, for example, gain a qualification in physics, biology, chemistry or science depending on their choice of mini-courses.

Critics who argue that the A level is too narrow and a barrier to a mass higher education system are championing modular courses as the way to bypass the Government's apparent veto on reform.

The rapid expansion of modular courses is being driven by demand from schools and students. But traditionalists are alarmed that the proliferation of courses will make it impossible to police standards. Dr John Marks, a government education adviser, said: "I am concerned by the rapid growth of modular courses, the threat to standards and by findings that seem to indicate that modular mathematics courses are easier than conventional A levels."

Dr Marks, a member of the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority (SCAA), said it was odd that while the Government was reducing the number of GCSE syllabuses to safeguard standards and ensure comparability, the growth of modular courses meant the tide was flowing in the opposite direction at A level. "The danger is that a rigorous and demanding examination that has served us well for more than 40 years will be reformed piecemeal and without a proper debate."

Kathleen Tattersall, chief executive of the Northern Examinations and Assessment Board, said the advent of modular courses could bring a 100 per cent pass rate. Miss Tattersall said about one-third of the board's candidates for mathematics and science A levels were taking modular courses. "The attraction of modular syllabuses is universal. People feel motivated by courses that open rather than close doors."

Miss Tattersall added that there was a danger of candidate and examiner fatigue, with pupils sitting too many examinations, schools having to organise formal examinations almost every month and examiners struggling to devise enough questions.

A senior SCAA official said: "Modular courses are changing things fast. It is happening because the market wants it but the consequences have yet to be felt." The authority remains adamant, however, that guidelines governing modular courses ensure standards are consistent with conventional courses offered by examination boards.

Leading article, page 15

NEWS IN BRIEF

Swimming coach faces teenage sex charges

A former Olympic swimming coach accused of sex attacks on teenage girls appeared in court in Swansea yesterday after a 15-month international police hunt. Paul Hickson, 46, jumped bail as he was about to face trial in September last year on indecent assault charges.

Hickson, of Baltonsborough, Somerset, led the British Olympic team at Los Angeles and Seoul. He was remanded in custody and will appear before magistrates next week.

Bouncer killed

Police in Brixton, south London, launched a murder hunt yesterday after a nightclub bouncer was shot dead. Anthony Kellman, 30, was shot with a double-barrelled shotgun at point-blank range outside Nixes nightclub.

Heroin arrest

Colin Wallace, 25, from Edinburgh, who claimed to be a priest in training, was arrested at the Greek-Turkish border after officials found 1.7kg of heroin in a briefcase.

Ambulance fire

An ambulance station run by the privately owned Inter-County Ambulance Service Ltd in Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire, has been gutted by arsonists.

Teenagers held

Four teenagers appeared before West Bromwich magistrates in relation to a car chase on the M1. Two were remanded in custody and two to social services accommodation.

Pulpit protest

Churchgoers in Heage, Derbyshire, protested to the Bishop of Derby after the vicar of St Luke's Church put the pulpit up for sale because he walks around to preach.

Golf course find

Archaeologists digging on a golf course at Hassocks, West Sussex, have discovered a Roman road, Saxon and Roman pottery and two huts from the 7th century.

Valley cheer

Wine from grapes grown in a Welsh valley is being sold to a hotel in France's Muscadet region. The Llanerch Vineyard produces 25,000 bottles of Cariad wine a year.

False alarm

A man caused a flood in a Southampton tower block by leaving his dentures in a sink with the tap running. He could not be alerted because he had removed his hearing aid.

Acrobat died in circus act that crippled older brother

BY RICHARD DUCE

THE circus acrobat who fell to his death in front of hundreds of spectators was killed performing the same "wheel of death" act that crippled his brother 18 months ago.

Their father tried to have the act stopped after the first accident and said yesterday that he had wanted the stunt equipment destroyed. Neville Campbell, 20, died in front of a Boxing Day audience of 400 at Blackpool Tower Circus after he made a fatal error of judgment during the finale of his act and fell 12ft to the ground, landing on his head.

His death is believed to be only the third fatality among circus performers in Britain in the past 40 years. Mr Campbell, a member of a well-known circus family from Stoke-on-Trent, insisted on continuing with the act, the Campbell Kids, with another partner after his brother Richard, 22, was left seriously injured in a similar fall.

Circus experts yesterday defended the safety record of the act, which has been performed regularly in Europe and America in one form or another for more than 50 years. It involves the performers spinning in two eight-feet wide "hamster wheels" that gradually descend to the ground from the 50ft high wire.

Neville Campbell: his brother was crippled

Mr Campbell's father, also Neville, had threatened to take a sledgehammer to the apparatus after the first accident in which his son Richard was badly hurt, according to a fellow circus performer.

Mr Campbell, 41, whose four sons followed him into the circus, said yesterday: "My family are devastated. The equipment has been taken down and will not be used again. I think the wheel should be destroyed."

He said his son was an outstanding circus performer who loved to show off. "The Wheel of Death is a daredevil act — it is not considered dangerous. There are far more dangerous acts at the circus. I lay no fault or blame with Blackpool Tower Circus for what happened, it was simply Neville's misjudgment."

His son, who trained as a circus performer from the age of eight, lost his grip on the outside of the cage and broke both wrists as he tried to regain control of the wheel, which can spin at speeds of up to 50mph.

The circus opened for business again yesterday. Steve Brailey, the Blackpool Tower manager, who witnessed the fall, said: "It has come as a terrible shock to the artistes but they said they want to perform today. It is what he would have wanted and it is a mark of respect that they carry on with the show."

PETER TRIEVENOR

Glen Cronin, manager of the Martlesham Animal Home, feeds swans rescued from the river Orwell oil spill before they are sent to be cleaned

A hundred swans at risk after oil spill

WILDLIFE specialists are battling to save up to a hundred swans after an oil spill in the river Orwell, south of Ipswich docks, in Suffolk (Michael Hornsby writes). Some birds have suffered oil contamination several times over the past three years.

The spill of about 50 gallons is thought to be bilge oil discharged deliberately or accidentally from a ship at the docks but could have come from one of the pleasure craft moored on the river. David Taylor, a water quality manager for the National Rivers Authority, said yesterday: "We think the spillage occurred on Christmas Eve. We received the first reports of oil-covered swans from members of the public out walking by the river on Boxing Day. The amount of oil spilled was small. The swans may have been the victims of a combination of tide and wind which took the oil through the spot where they are in the habit of roosting together overnight."

The first casualties began arriving yesterday at the Norfolk Wildlife Hospital run by the RSPCA at East Winch. At least 50 swans were expected to be brought in during the day. Dougie Walker, a wildlife assistant, said, adding that there were probably as many affected birds again in the river that had not yet been rounded up.

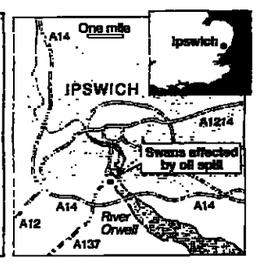
Up to 70 per cent of the swans' bodies are covered by oil, enough to kill them without prompt treatment, Mr Walker said. "The oil is poisonous. It also breaks down the natural waterproofing of the birds' feathers, so that they become waterlogged and sink or die of cold."

The birds are fed a fluid consisting of salt and water mixed with charcoal which helps to flush out any oil they have swallowed, and examined for skin or eye injuries. They are then cleaned.

Brian Dalton, the RSPCA chief inspector for Suffolk, said: "There have been five oil pollution incidents along this stretch of river over the past five years, three in the last 12 months. The birds are ringed every time they have to be treated. We are seeing some of the birds rescued today for the third or fourth time."

Tracing those who cause oil leaks has proved difficult. John Swift, Ipswich Port Authority's duty harbourmaster, said: "I believe this latest leak was caused by someone being irresponsible and emptying their bilges in the dock. We will take legal action if we can prove where the oil came from."

An oily swan is cleaned at the RSPCA's Norfolk Wildlife Hospital at East Winch



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Motorists face 30-mile detour to go yards

BY PAUL WILKINSON

DRIVERS wanting to go 200 yards across the centre of a town in the North face a diversion of 30 miles in the spring. Although they will be able to see where they want to go close at hand, motorists could take two-and-a-half hours at peak times getting there.

The detour is planned by the owners of the docks in the centre of Goole, north Humberside. Associated British Ports wants to close a bridge over its South Dock for six weeks of maintenance and repairs. Not only is the bridge the sole link between Goole Old Town and New, it is the one through-route between villages on either side.

Alan Walker, Humberside County Council's assistant director of technical services said: "There are a number of businesses which have to make frequent trips across the river. They are going to be seriously affected. It will also cause great problems for the emergency services."

Colin Silvester, Goole's port manager said: "I know it seems ridiculous to suggest people having to make a 30-mile diversion to make a journey of 200 yards but the repairs are vital."

The road surface is to be replaced and the mechanical workings of the lifting bridge need servicing. Alternatives have been considered, including a temporary bridge, but have so far been ruled out on grounds of cost. Goole's business community is to meet the port owners and highways officials in the New Year to discuss the final proposals.

Pensioner missing as widespread floods close roads

BY ROBIN YOUNG

HEAVY rain and strong winds brought floods to many areas yesterday, making roads impassable. However, temperatures in southern England were ten degrees Celsius above the average for late December.

Police and volunteers continued their search for a pensioner missing from his home at Hirwaun, Mid Glamorgan, since Christmas Eve.

George Poore, 82, was last seen when he told relatives that he was going for a walk. Hirwaun experienced some of the heaviest rain over the Christmas holiday.

The downpour caused floods in Wales, Scotland, the West and southern counties. Red alerts were issued for several rivers including the Rhondda, Taff, and Ogmore in Mid Glamorgan.

Force nine gales forced the cancellation of cross-Channel services from Dover. Flooding on tracks south of Derby delayed InterCity services to London by up to 40 minutes.

The Welsh Grand National at Chepstow in Gwent was called off, and streets and homes were flooded at Builth Wells and Machynlleth in Powys, Aberystwyth in Dyfed and Cwmavon in West Glamorgan.

The river Wye burst its banks in several places, flooding hundreds of acres of farmland along a 20-mile stretch between Builth Wells and Hay-on-Wye. The Usk broke its banks at Brecon, flooding more than 100 yards of the town's riverside promenade.

The Hayling inshore lifeboat rescued 14 people and a dog from a yacht that ran aground in Chichester harbour as 60mph winds lashed the south coast.

A teenage windsurfer's mast snapped, stranding him a quarter of a mile out to sea. Antony Bewes, 19, was rescued after a catamaran ferry heading to Southampton from the Isle of Wight spotted him waving for assistance.

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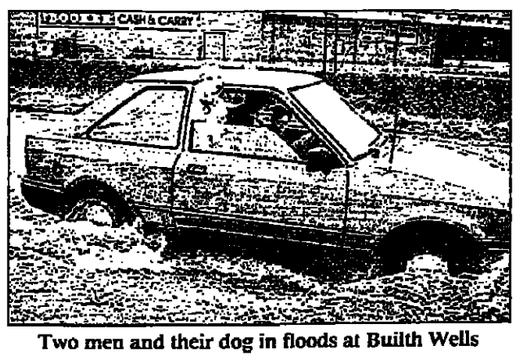


Two men and their dog in floods at Builth Wells

Lord Archer escapes as car veers off M25

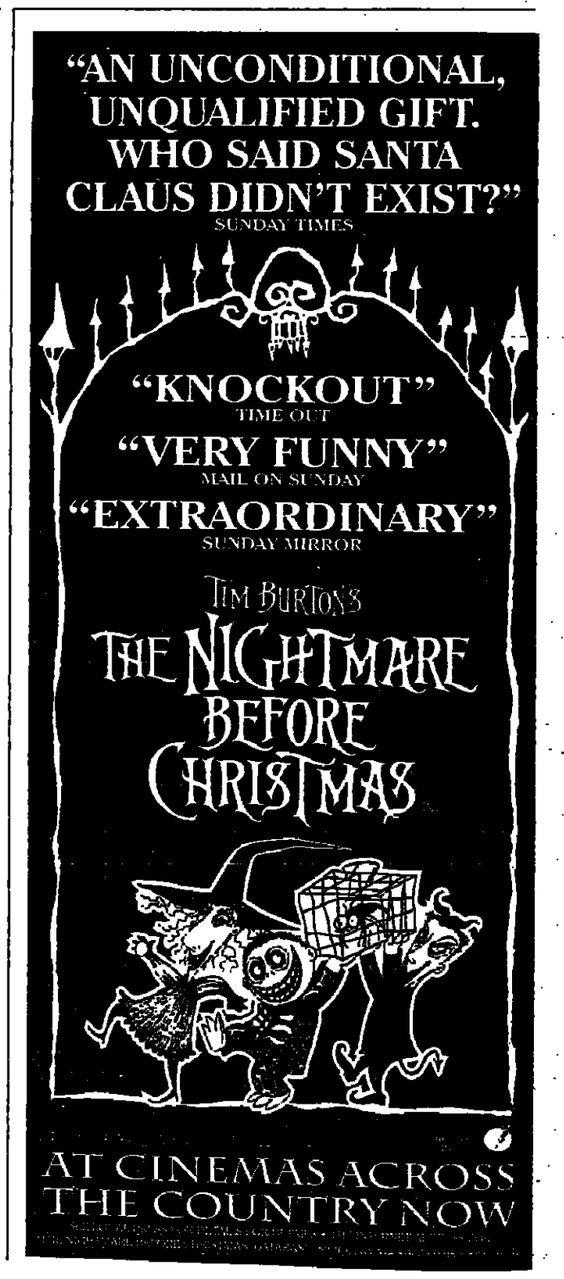
BY STUART TENDLER

LORD ARCHER of Weston-super-Mare, former deputy chairman of the Conservative party, and his wife Mary escaped with minor injuries yesterday when their car went out of control and veered off the M25.

The author and his wife left hospital within hours. Lady Archer was thrown through a passenger window of the car and received cuts to her face, arm and hand. The Archers' two sons, William, 22, and James, 20, were in the back of the BMW sports coupé but were unhurt. The car ended up perched on an embankment, dented by its passage through a wire fence and thick trees and shrubs. A Hertfordshire police officer said the car was considerably damaged and the Archers were "quite lucky" to escape without serious injury.

The crash happened on a westbound section of the motorway near junction 19 just after 9.30am. No other vehicle was involved. Hertfordshire Police later began an investigation into the accident and an examination of the car. Lord Archer was breathalysed, as part of Hertfordshire Police's standard practice after an accident but recorded a negative result.

The Archers were taken to Mount Vernon NHS hospital in Northwood, west London, but later transfered to Bishopswood private hospital on the same site. Lord Archer was treated for cuts and bruises and Lady Archer received stitches for cuts under her left eye, arm and hand.



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Developers condemn potential objections as 'tyranny of status quo'

Giant Oxfordshire airport proposed

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

A PROPOSAL to build a giant airport in the heart of the Oxfordshire countryside has been submitted to the Department of Transport. The £4.5 billion airport near Abingdon, provisionally called Lox, could be open in 2007 and would guarantee that Britain remained the aviation hub of Europe, according to a group of private developers.

In a letter to Dr Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, the group says the two-runway airport would be privately financed and the terminals would be owned and operated by airlines.

"The Lox project offers an opportunity to provide for the long-term capacity needs of air transport in the UK while creating a competitive market in the South East," they said. "Its selection would permanently remove, at a stroke, the blight afflicting the population adjoining London airports."

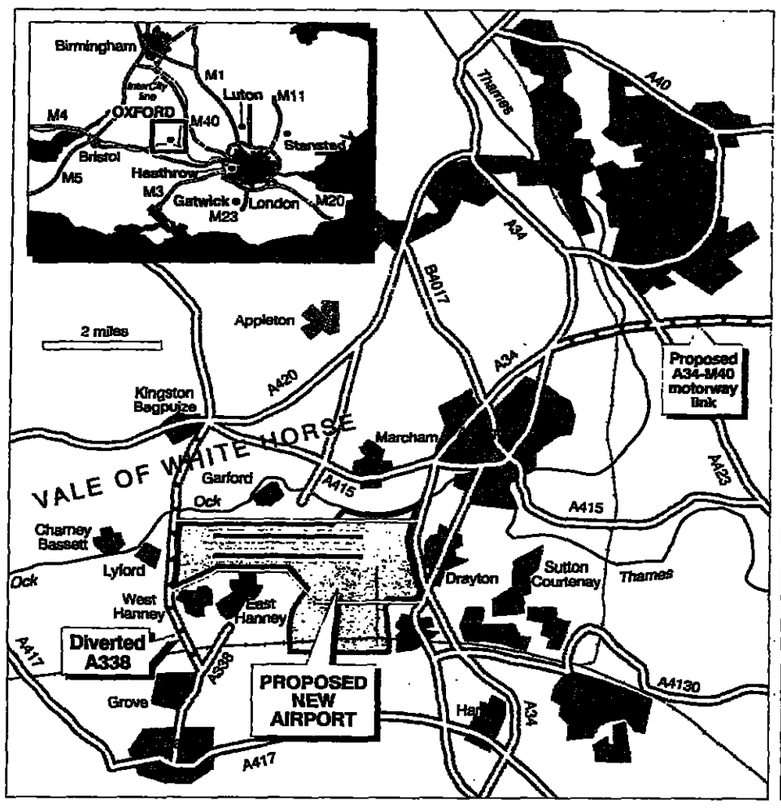
The site chosen for the development is between Abingdon, Didcot and Wantage. Pleiade Associates, which is advising the developers on site location, said that 3,413 houses would be affected by noise and 87 would have to be demolished to make way for the 4,000-metre runways.

The development group, which includes the international consulting engineer Ove Arup, is adamant that the project is viable. "Perhaps the gravest objection is that it is a greenfield site," Alan Geal, the group's director, wrote to Dr Mawhinney. "This criticism can, of course, be levelled at any new site *per se*: it is to propound the divine right of grass."

The developers say that the eventual benefits of economic growth are remote while the negative impacts are seen immediately. "This tyranny of the status quo may be a root cause of our relative economic decline: one can always find a greater number to oppose than to support any change and to do so with a greater vigour."

The project is one of several put forward by developers and aviation experts. Another group is proposing to build an airport in the Thames estuary. The Marinair proposal was first made three years ago and involved building a self-contained airport on an artificial island near Sheerness, Kent, at a cost of £3.3 billion. The plan is still with the Department of Transport.

International developers are searching mainland Europe for a site that would be capable of accepting large international jets as well as thousands of local commuter aircraft to enable passengers to transfer in one giant central terminal. If such a site proved to be acceptable locally, Britain's airports would gradually cease to attract international carriers and become little more than European outposts flying passengers to the big continental hubs.



Bond film eyes Rolls-Royce site

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE new James Bond film, *Goldeneye*, is to be shot in a disused Rolls-Royce aircraft hangar in Leavesden Green, Hertfordshire, because Britain's main studios are booked solid.

Because Shepperton and Pinewood studios are too busy to turn over their entire sites to *Goldeneye*, Cubby Broccoli, the film's producer, has decided to convert the derelict 150-acre area into a seven-stage set.

Filming on the £33 million production, in which Pierce Brosnan makes his debut as 007, begins on January 9. About 60 per cent of the film will be made in Britain, with the remainder being shot in St Petersburg, Monte Carlo, Switzerland and Puerto Rico.

Steve Jaggs, managing director of Pinewood — where all but two Bond films were made — said that last year's revival of interest from Hollywood companies wanting to make films in Britain seemed set to continue throughout next year.

During the past 18 months four major feature films — *Mary Reilly*, starring Julia Roberts, *First Knight*, starring Richard Gere and Sean Connery, *Interview With A Vampire*, starring Tom Cruise, and *Hackers* — have been made at Pinewood.

"We are certainly going to be busy in the first few months of 1995. *Space Police* is still being made here and we have more inquiries now than we have had for ages," Mr Jaggs said.

Brosnan: making his debut as agent 007

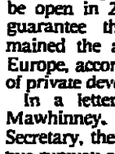
Woman carried bomb in her bag for weeks

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A HOUSEWIFE walked around for more than two months with a terrorists' bomb in her bag, unaware it was hidden there by arsonists before she bought it. She discovered the incendiary device when she opened one of the side pockets for the first time on Boxing Day.

The 24-year-old woman dropped the canvas holdall and dialled 999 from her house in Ryde, Isle of Wight. Officers rushed to her home and deactivated the device. Police believe the firebomb was one of a series planted by animal rights activists in high street shops on the island in August. Fires in four stores caused damage estimated at £2 million.

Inspector Steven Evans said: "The woman bought the bag on October 21 and used it on several occasions. If it had gone off, the firebomb could have caused untold damage to her and her house. She is a very lucky lady and is obviously shocked."



SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer West — Love all Pairs

	♠8632 ♥972 ♦K2 ♣Q1092	
♠Q107 ♥AQ1064 ♦65 ♣J74	N W E S	♠A954 ♥J853 ♦84 ♣K53
	♠KJ ♥K ♦AQJ10973 ♣A86	

W	N	E	S
2♥ (1)	Pass	3♥ (2)	?

What should South bid?

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

(1) Weak Two. The normal requirements are a six-card suit, and a hand of around 7-11 points.
(2) Raises of Weak Twos are always pre-emptive. Constructive sequences usually start with a 2NT response.

Answer: This is a hand from the St John's Wood Bridge Club's auction pairs, played last week and won by Richard Selway and Alan Goide. In match-pointed pairs, players take many risks they wouldn't take in teams or at rubber bridge. Over Three Hearts my partner, Martin Garvey, made the insane-looking bid of 3NT. There was a certain amount of logic to his bid. First, East's pre-emptive raise marked me with a few points. Second, it is surprising what a good stopper singleton king can be (this applies particularly when the long suit is on your right — a player holding say ace-queen-jack and others will frequently put in the jack to preserve communication).

At any rate, it worked on this occasion. West led an uninspired low heart, and the declarer had nine tricks. A spade lead would have taken the contract two off, the ace of hearts lead followed by four more rounds of hearts would have squeezed the declarer for at least three off.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Valuable experience

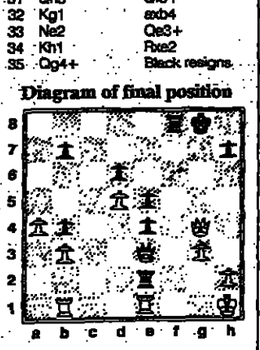
The Hastings international tournament has always proved a valuable training ground for British players to take a crack at strong foreign opposition. In the 1966 tournament I availed myself of this opportunity to beat the Russian former world champion Mikhail Botvinnik.

White: Keene
Black: Botvinnik
Hastings 1966

King's Indian Defence

1	Nf3	g6
2	c4	Bg7
3	d4	Nf6
4	g3	0-0
5	Bg2	c6
6	0-0	d6
7	Nc3	a6
8	a4	a5
9	b3	Na6
10	Ba3	Nb4
11	e4	Bg4
12	Qd2	Bxf3
13	Bxf3	Nd7
14	Rab1	Qb6
15	Rfd1	Rad8
16	Ne2	e5
17	Bb2	Rfe8
18	d5	Nc5
19	Nc1	Rf8
20	Bg2	cxd5
21	cxd5	f5
22	exf5	gxf5
23	Re1	Rc8
24	Bc3	Ne4
25	Bxe4	fxe4
26	Bxb4	Bh6
27	Qxh6	Qxf2+
28	Kh1	Qf3+
29	Kg1	Qf2+
30	Kh1	Rc2
31	Qh3	Qf3+
32	Kg1	axb4
33	Ne2	Qe3+
34	Kh1	Rxe2
35	Qg4+	Black resigns.

Diagram of final position



White was fortunate to win since Black avoided several opportunities to make a draw.

Winning Move, page 36

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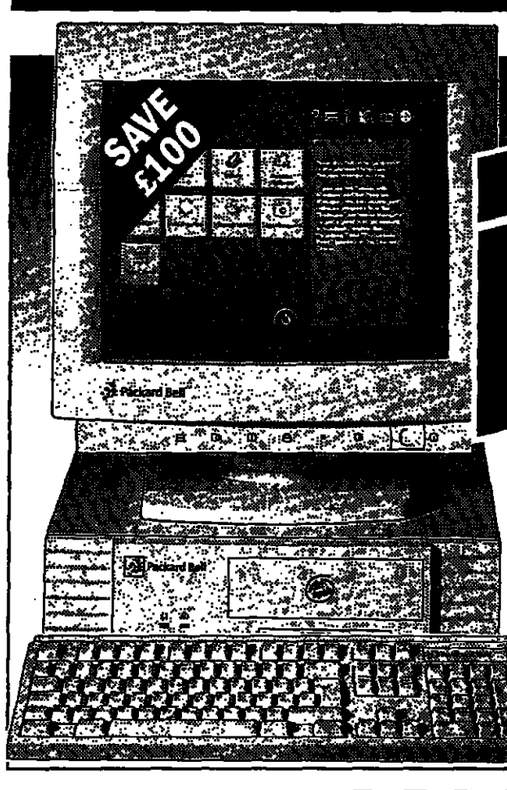

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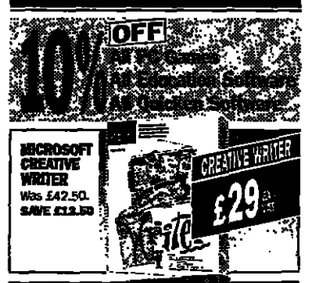

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Defiant Chechen rebels dare Russia to stand and fight

*Chechens at Argun are dismissive of Russian threats, writes **Richard Beeston**, the only British newspaper correspondent in Grozny, who drove through the war zone yesterday*

THE ghostly-looking figures of Chechen fighters emerged from their frontline positions in small groups, confident that their white home-made camouflage uniforms rendered them practically invisible in thick fog and snow.

Judging from the eerie silence in the battered no-man's land north of Argun, the Russian snipers a few hundred yards across an icy river were unable or unwilling to try their luck.

"This is all the Russians are good at," said a young Chechen fighter cradling a Dragunov rifle, and pointing at a row of small shops and bungalows which had been hit by artillery batteries. "They will never dare to fight us properly, just bomb the civilians."

The remarks could have been dismissed as the bravado of a young soldier but in Argun the resistance against an overwhelmingly larger force seems to have infected the old as well as the young, the women and children as well as the men. Yesterday the people here were in particularly defiant mood when the local Russian commander invited his Chechen counterpart to impromptu negotiations for a ceasefire.

"The Russians said that if we halted our firing they would stop their attacks too," said Shamil Besaev, a veteran commander who fought in last year's Caucasus war on the side of Abkhaz separatists seeking independence from Georgia. "We told them that we would not stop fighting until every last Russian soldier has left our land. They may start attacking us any moment now. But that is too bad, we cannot accept anything less than a total withdrawal."

While on the surface the move might seem foolhardy, particularly given the threat by President Yeltsin to pursue his campaign against this breakaway republic, on the ground it was easier to understand why the Chechens remain so confident. On Monday night near Argun the they ambushed and captured more than ten Russian soldiers, including two officers, who were displayed last night, on Chechen television looking dazed but healthy.

Over the weekend the Russians claimed they had inflicted 1,000 casualties on the defenders of this small market town, but the Chechens yesterday said they had lost three men and pointed out that they would be hard pushed to find 1,000 fighters. They seemed sure that even if the lead force of some 200 Russian tanks was ordered to push through this strategic position and cut off Grozny, the capital, their advance could be halted. The Chechen forces, armed with a variety of infantry weapons from anti-tank rockets to shoulder-held SAM-7 missiles, could certainly inflict serious damage.

In the first two weeks of this conflict the Kremlin appears to have succeeded in creating a dedicated and well-armed force whose morale and ability in the field has far outperformed the Russian army. While President Dudayev may not have been the most popular leader before the showdown with Russia, his defiant statements have been consistent, unlike those from the Kremlin. As a result of a a series of mixed signals — ranging from conciliation to threat, from peace talks to bombing civilians — the authorities in Moscow are mistrusted and ignored.

"The Russians say they want peace one day and war another," Muhammad Gazdiyev, a history professor, said. "We do not really listen very much to what they say."

☐ **Moscow:** Avlur Dudayev, the 23-year-old son of the Chechen leader, was seriously injured on Monday in battle with Russian forces in Grozny, Ruslan Chimayev, the region's Deputy Foreign Minister, said yesterday. *(Reuter)*

Serb soldiers on reconnaissance patrol during a fragile peace around Muslim-held zones near the north Bosnian town of Teslic

Belgrade paper war takes to the streets

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

A BATTLE for the freedom of the press in Serbia has moved from the courts to the streets.

After an attempt on Friday by the authorities to impose editorial control on *Borba*, Serbia's only independent national daily, two editions are being printed. On the streets readers have a choice between an "official" pro-government version and an "independent" edition. Both are published under the same masthead and, even more confusingly, both appear to be illegal.

For the past few years, *Borba* has consistently published opposition voices while most other papers have toed an editorial line reflecting the policies of President Milosevic. For several months, however, the authorities have been attacking *Borba* through the courts by challenging its ownership. Last week they appointed a new editor, Dragutin Brcin, the rump Yugoslavia's State Secretary for Information. It was this move that sparked a rebellion at the paper.

An attempt to evict *Borba* journalists from their building failed. They are continuing to work while the pro-Government version is apparently being prepared on Government premises. According to Gordana Logar, editor of the independent edition, only four out of more than 100 journalists have defected to the rival.

On Saturday, the European Union condemned the move, calling it "a further repressive measure" against the independent media. Yesterday, Mrs Logar said she was baffled because the paper had supported President Milosevic's recent peace moves. She said that she was even more puzzled by a court ruling on Tuesday which in effect declared the pro-Government paper illegal as well.

Borba may have irritated Mr Milosevic by continuing to report on the Bosnian Serbs. Most other papers and state television ignore Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader. Some commentators believe that the attempt to curb *Borba* may also indicate a trend towards further authoritarianism.

Serb and Muslim raids imperil Bosnia truce

Sarajevo: Two government soldiers were wounded in fighting around Bihac in northwestern Bosnia yesterday, despite United Nations efforts to broaden a nationwide ceasefire, officials said.

Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, the UN commander for Bosnia, met Bosnian Vice-President Ejup Ganic and made plans to visit the troubled region.

Continued attacks on government forces in the Bihac area by rebel Serbs from neighbouring Croatia and renegade Muslim forces have threatened a nationwide truce that took effect on Saturday. But there was some good news from the Bihac pocket. After a five-day delay, a nine-lorry convoy reached Cazin. But it carried only enough supplies — 100 tons — to feed the region's 180,000 people for a day, according to Peter Kessler, a UN spokesman. *(AP)*

Yeltsin calls off bombing but vows to topple Grozny regime

THE following are extracts from President Yeltsin's speech yesterday on the Chechenia crisis.

"Russian soldiers are defending the unity of Russia . . . The Chechen Republic is a part of the Russian Federation. Its structure is stipulated by the constitution. Not a single territory has the right to leave Russia.

"A second point: the election of the President of Chechenia took place, in essence, under martial law conditions and only in certain regions of the then existing Chechen-Ingushi Republic. The present-day leadership of Chechenia was not recognised either by the previous legal organs of power of Chechenia or by the federal powers of Russia, or by the world community.

"The regime of Grozny has deliberately destroyed the statehood of the Chechen Republic. Today there is neither power nor law. Only armed units, loyal to [separatist leader Dzhokhar] Dudayev, have been strengthened.

"In the last three years the federal powers have stubbornly tried to convince these so-called 'Chechen leaders' that to live in Russia and to be outside Russia is impossible. But the further we went the more aggressively and offensive Grozny behaved. Negotiations were undermined.

"The Grozny regime has forced Chechen society along a criminal path . . . The republic is awash with weapons. Whoever wants to can use them at their discretion. The regime set up in the republic has become the source of great criminal danger, above all for Russia. In recent times the activity of Chechen groups in the sphere of drug dealing have increased. The republic has become a caravan route for narcotics and weapons . . .

"The main conclusion is this: the longer the situation in the Chechen Republic went on, the greater the destructive effect on Russia's stability. It has become one of the main internal threats to our state's security.

"Russians for a long time and with justification have reproached us for indecisiveness, for not wishing to restore order on the territory of the Chechen Republic, an integral part of Russia. The extremely complicated situation required the gravest decision — to use armed forces on the territory of Chechenia.

> Russian soldiers are on the front line of the struggle with international criminality and extremism

"The establishment of law and legal order in the republic has led to tough resistance from nationalistic and extremist forces. Russian soldiers and police are on the front line of the struggle with the most dangerous, powerful and brazen forces of Russian and international criminality and extremism . . . Among them are professional terrorists . . . Soldiers and officers, forces of the Interior Ministry, you have been sent to Chechenia to defend the state interests of Russia, the interests of all peoples of our country. You are under the protection of the state, the Russian constitution, under the personal protection of the President. Before you is a concrete task: disarm the armed groups, achieve the surrender or the destruction of heavy weaponry.

"Remember that the explosion of banditry on Chechen soil threatens our entire country. Your kin could even be among its victims.

"I understand that it is not easy for soldiers today. It is not easy also for the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of the Interior. But I call on you to do everything you can to fulfil this task. And I believe you will do so.

"The efforts of soldiers and police are already giving results. The first stage of solving the crisis has been fulfilled. The ring has closed around Grozny. Legality and order will be restored on the territory of Chechenia. Grozny must be cleansed of the criminal elements without delay.

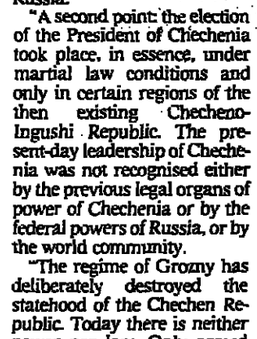
"The Gordian knot of the Chechen crisis can be cut. But at too heavy a price, the price of the lives of some citizens of Russia. For the sake of preserving lives I have given an order to halt the bombing raids, which can lead to casualties among the civilian population of Grozny.

"I want to assure all Russians. Do not worry. Order and peace will be restored in Chechenia. We will take measures to avoid dragging out a solution of this complicated problem." *(Reuter)*

Leading article, page 15

Talks resume to find Italian leader

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME



Scalfaro: likely to name new leader this week

PRESIDENT SCALFARO yesterday resumed consultations with political leaders on the formation of Italy's 54th postwar Government to replace Silvio Berlusconi's Freedom Alliance coalition.

The head of state had a meeting at the Quirinal Palace with the two parliamentary Speakers, Irene Pivetti of the Chamber of Deputies and Carlo Scognamiglio of the Senate, prior to talks with party leaders. These talks are expected to last until the end of the week before he names a Prime Minister who will try to form a new administration.

Signor Berlusconi resigned last week after his erstwhile Northern League allies tabled a vote of no confidence. Over the Christmas holiday, Signor Berlusconi kept up his campaign for an early election, declaring that he and Gianfranco Fini, the "post-Fascist" leader of the National Alliance, would never allow Umberto Bossi, the Northern League leader, to hand Italy to the Democratic Party of the Left, the former Communists.

Antonio Di Pietro, the judge who headed the "clean hands" anti-corruption investigation, emerged as a key political figure at the weekend, when he cancelled his honeymoon in the Maldive islands and was quoted as saying: "If the institutions need me, if the state recalls me to service, I am ready to return to work".

Signor Di Pietro resigned three weeks ago, setting off speculation that he was planning to enter politics. He was quoted by *La Repubblica* as telling friends: "I am not a party man. I do not want to throw myself into politics. I will never found a party." There were signs, however, that he would be prepared to join a broad-based coalition led by Francesco Cossiga, the former President. He might serve as Interior Minister or Justice Minister, and it has even been suggested that he might accept a proposal to head a new Government.

Il Messaggero speculated that Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, a former Prime Minister, might also join a Government led by Signor Cossiga and Signor Di Pietro. The former judge accepted a post teaching at a university near the northern town of Varese, but said: "There is a great need to rewrite the rules in this country. I would like to be among those who rewrite them."

In addition to the former judge and Signor Cossiga, newspapers suggested that the next Prime Minister might be Signor Scognamiglio, or Mario Monti, the rector of Milan's Bocconi University.

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Algerian hijackers planned to blow up jet over Paris

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

FRENCH police believe their dramatic raid on a hijacked airliner in Marseilles on Monday foiled a plot to blow up the jet over Paris.

Charles Pasqua, the Interior Minister, said last night that an anonymous telephone call to France's consulate in Oran warned of a suicide operation. "The hostage-takers were manifestly not worried about their own lives or those of the passengers," M Pasqua said.

The discovery yesterday of two packets of dynamite hidden in the Airbus-300 added weight to the theory.

All 170 passengers aboard the plane were rescued when it was stormed on Monday evening by 40 members of the French gendarmarie's anti-terrorist unit, the GIGN. The four terrorists, who were members of the Muslim extremist Armed Islamic Group, were killed.

According to a report in *La Tribune*, an Algerian paper, the man behind the hijacking — who did not take part — was Djamel Zitouni, who is alleged to have led an attack on a French embassy compound last August in which five French nationals were killed.

Yesterday as President Mitterrand led praise for the GIGN, the freed hostages recalled the 54-hour ordeal that began in Algiers airport on Saturday. Some passengers described the hijackers as young, well-dressed and polite. However, a French psychiatrist who interviewed the hostages said: "Near the end, a girl burst out crying and other passengers asked for her to be released. The hostage-takers replied: 'No, you're going to die with us'."

Ferhat Mehenni, an Algerian singer aboard the plane, told French television: "The hijackers were talking among themselves about blowing up the plane above Paris."

Alain Gehin, the Marseilles police chief who led negotiations with the terrorists, said: "Throughout the dialogue, it was in the back of my mind that I could not take the risk of allowing an airliner take off when it could have exploded in mid-flight."

Several times on Monday, the four hijackers demanded fuel to take the plane to Paris, where they wanted to hold a press conference. The French authorities said they would agree if passengers were released: in fact, they never had any intention of doing so and were simply playing for time.

When, at 5pm, the hijackers started shooting at the control tower at Marseilles airport, Edouard Balladur, the Prime Minister, gave the go-ahead for GIGN intervention.

The unit's leader, Major Denis Favier, said yesterday that he knew the terrorists were tired and weak after two nights without sleep. His plan was to storm the front of the plane, attract the attention of the four men and engage them in a gun battle while passengers were evacuated by the rear doors.

The plan worked as intended, he said. "The operation seemed interminable but we could not retreat so long as the evacuation had not been completed. They took refuge in the cockpit, keeping the door shut and firing through the partition," he said. "Six of the gendarmes were injured trying to get into the cockpit, a feat they managed only after 23 minutes with the use of stun-grenades. The resistance by fire-power was enormous."

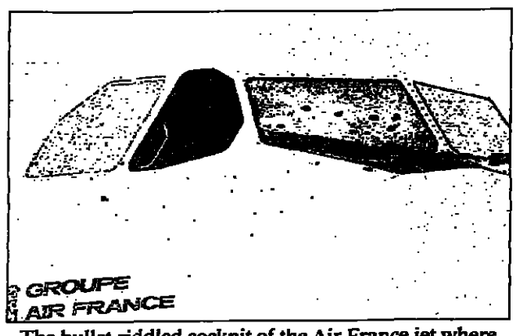
The operation represented a political triumph for M Balladur, who was quick to claim responsibility for the decision to send in the GIGN. But while the Prime Minister's presidential ambitions have been boosted, important security questions remain for his Government, which now knows — if it ever doubted — that France is caught up in Algeria's civil war.

At an emergency cabinet meeting yesterday, ministers decided to suspend French aircraft and ships from visiting Algeria while tighter security measures are put in place. These could include sending policemen, armed but dressed in civilian clothing, on all flights to Algiers, the Transport Ministry said.

Alain Juppé, the Foreign Minister, confirmed reports that the Algerian Government wanted to storm the plane in Algiers and was only prevented by France's insistence that the jet be allowed to take off, and the pilot's refusal to unlock the doors.

Charles Bremner, page 14

Relatives and friends show the emotional strain they have been under on welcoming the freed hostages back in Paris yesterday



The bullet-riddled cockpit of the Air France jet where the Algerian hijackers took refuge and were killed

President Mitterrand shaking hands with a wounded, unidentified member of the special forces squad

Martians replace Marx as Hungary seeks new beliefs

FROM ADAM LEBOR IN BUDAPEST

Aliens have surveyed Szolnok and one of their ships has been spotted hovering above the Hungarian city.

The vehicle flew several hundred feet above ground before its bright light dimmed and it changed shape, apparently due to advanced technology not yet available on Earth. "There was a light ten times as bright as Venus, 300 metres high, with an unbelievable flight path, tracing zeds in the sky," *UFO Magazine* said.

Mock this news about close encounter of the Hungarian kind at your peril because the story's author, Gyorgy Keleti, is now Hungary's Defence Minister.

His brief also encompasses the negotiation of Hungary's entry into Nato under the auspices of the Partnership for Peace programme as well as monitoring more esoteric threats to Hungarian security.

UFO Magazine is one of many manifestations of Eastern Europe's growing interest in the paranormal. Witchcraft, unidentified flying objects and the occult are growth industries in a region where many people are dazed and confused by the transition from communism to capitalism.

The old certainties of Marx and Lenin have been replaced with new beliefs. Every main Hungarian city has a UFO society and this year the country hosted an international UFO conference.

"People don't care about political parties shouting at each other, they are fed up with politics. But these phenomena are interesting because they are unexplainable and they are miracles," said Sandor Pusztay, the editor of *UFO Magazine*.

Many Hungarians in search of such miracles can be found at the Red Raven witchcraft studio in Pest. The studio's waiting room is full every day with people seeking answers to life's problems from Jozsef Meszaros, Hungary's chief witch, for a price. Red Raven offers ritual magic, love spells, curse removal and reincarnation hypnosis at prices ranging from 2,000 forints to 10,000 forints (£12 to £60).

Mr Meszaros claims to have 8,000 members in his "church", which is registered as a religion in Hungary although his more established rivals frown on it.

"The Bishop of Esztergon told his congregation to have nothing to do with us. The same night the cathedral roof caught fire and they have not identified a cause," the chief witch said.

Profits from the studio, set up in 1991, will go towards the witch's temple. "It is not necessary to have a church, witches can work out of the room, but it is a matter of prestige. Professional witchcraft rituals are difficult to organise in small east European flats," said Mr Meszaros.

The studio also sells 72 kinds of polarised water, each of which it is claimed can cure a different disease. However, the Ministry of Health said the water was identical to normal water and brought legal proceedings against the studio.

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Palestinians held after battle to block bigger settlement

FROM BEN LYNFIELD IN EFRAT, WEST BANK

ISRAELI soldiers and police scuffled with Palestinian protesters on a hilltop south of Bethlehem yesterday, pushing and carrying away about 150 demonstrators to clear the way for the expansion of a Jewish settlement.

Soon afterwards, bulldozers began work to build a Jewish neighbourhood of 500 homes to be linked to the sprawling Efrat settlement. Palestinians in the nearby town of Al-Khader say the new neighbourhood, to be called Tamar (Hebrew for the edible date) is being built on their land and will separate them from their best arable fields.

Ten people were taken to hospital after being hit by soldiers, Palestinians said. They said troops hit Saed Erakat, a minister in the Palestinian National Authority, headed by Yassir Arafat.

General Alexander Ron, the Israeli police commander, said that at first the troops did not know who Mr Erakat was, and that he had "kicked one of my people". Fifty-four demonstrators were arrested, he said. The police action, after a five-day stand-off, has underscored Israel's determination to expand existing Jewish settlements in the West Bank despite the self-rule deal, which calls for the spread of the Palestinian authority to West Bank cities and villages.

"We hope that with this new neighbourhood being built, Efrat will grow into a city," said Moshe Ben-Elisha, an engineer on the council of the settlement, which now numbers about 5,000 people. He displayed maps showing plans for two additional neighbourhoods.

Looking disconsolate after the eviction, Mr Erakat said: "The people here keep asking me, 'is this the type of peace you are trying to bring us?' It is evident to them that Rabin's [the Israeli Prime Minister's] intention is to expand settlements and not to have peace. This is the graveyard of the peace process."

Yossi Sarid, the Israeli Environment Minister, called for a suspension of the ground work and said it might harm negotiations with the Palestinian Authority. Last Thursday bulldozers arrived to begin the work as a follow-up to Israeli declarations in 1983 and 1991 that the land in dispute was state-owned. But protesters from Al-Khader lay in their path and halted the effort.

Moshe Shahal, the Police Minister, said the protesters would be freed. Mr Arafat, the PLO leader, condemned Israeli soldiers for working with settlers. He called on Israel to stop the activity and asked Western governments to step in. Left-wing Israeli ministers supported calls to halt the expansion.

Meanwhile in Damascus, radical Palestinian groups condemned Oman for entertaining Yitzhak Rabin during a visit on Monday. They said the trip was "a dangerous step on the undesired process of Arab normalisation of ties with Israel".

Photograph, page 18

Liv Arnesen in optimistic mood at the Hercules Inlet base before setting off on the first successful one-woman expedition to the South Pole, which she completed on Christmas Day. Ms Arnesen, a Norwegian travel agency clerk, started the 714-mile trip on November 5. Her sledge weighed eight stone and her rucksack 32 lb. When she achieved her goal she rang on her satellite telephone to say: "Finished South Pole". She was then invited for brunch at an American research base. Ms Arnesen, 41, will be airlifted from the area early in the new year.

Sisulu has suspected heart attack

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

WALTER SISULU, until two weeks ago the second most powerful man in the African National Congress, was flown to hospital yesterday after a suspected heart attack.

Mr Sisulu, 82, was taken ill on Monday in the Kruger National Park, where he was on holiday, and taken to a clinic in Nelspruit in the Eastern Transvaal province. He was flown to Johannesburg yesterday where hospital officials said his condition was serious but stable.

Earlier this month at the ANC's annual congress, Mr Sisulu stepped down as Deputy President to make way for Thabo Mbeki, who is the favourite to succeed Nelson Mandela as party leader.

Although he did not take office in the South African Government after elections last April, Mr Sisulu was seen as performing a stabilising role in his position as Deputy President as the ANC made the transition from a revolutionary movement to a formal political party. He is Mr Mandela's closest confidant, a bond forged in the early 1940s.

Jordan forced to confront 'honour killing' of women

FROM RANA SABBAGH IN AMMAN

WHEN a Jordanian teenager stabbed and shot his handicapped sister to death in front of their parents for having an illegitimate child, the family ululated in a traditional display of joy.

The killing of 18-year-old Jizia in September was not a rarity in a country where "family honour" is often defined by what happens to women, even if it happens against their will. Months earlier Ayed, 32, slit the throat of his 16-year-old sister Kifaya. She had been raped by a younger brother, forced to have an abortion and married off to a 58-year-old man who divorced her six months later.

"I have cleansed my family's honour," declared Ayed when Kifaya lay dead on the floor. The official report said the family fired guns in the air in celebration.

Those two were among 23 women victims of "honour killings" in Jordan this year, out of 86 cases of premeditated murder recorded by police. Lawyers say the true toll could be much higher. In addition there are hundreds of cases of abuse, beatings and marriages forced on women accused of "immoral" behaviour in the male-dominated society.

Although honour killings have been carried out for centuries in the region, only now are such crimes being discussed publicly.

"People have become more daring in discussing these crimes, which are a flagrant violation of human rights," said Asma Khader, a lawyer and leading feminist who heads the Jordan Women Union. "The media is also dedicating more coverage to it." For most officials, though, the topic remains taboo. Social and family pressure makes it unacceptable for any Jordanian couple to live together unless they are married. The majority of conservative families encourage segregation of sexes at an early age.

Sociologists say that rapid social change, including greater urbanisation and the increasing number of women in the labour force, is contributing to the number of such crimes.

Lawyers and officials say that in many cases women have been killed because male relatives had proof of "immoral" behaviour, ranging from losing their virginity before marriage to merely flirting. Others were simply victims of rumours and even anonymous letters.

"People tend to do these acts because society is intolerant of any defiance, especially when it relates to sex," said Dr Sabri Rbeihat, an American-educated sociologist. "People who commit this are usually conservative, religious and tribalistic in thinking and behaving, and intolerant and hostile towards modernisation and modernity."

Many killings are justified as honouring *sharia* (Islamic law) but most Muslim scholars deny that there is any law justifying killing a woman in the name of family honour. "Killings by individuals are rejected even if the justification is to protect honour," says Shaikh Ahmed Hlayel, King Husain's foremost adviser on Islamic affairs. "And there should be no leniency in implementing penalties related to such crimes."

Jordanian courts follow a mixture of *sharia* and civilian law. Lawyers say, however, that most killers in these cases have sympathy in their communities and receive light sentences because of provisions in the penal code. Some men have been jailed for as little as three months.

One *sharia* law says a man who finds his wife or female relative in an adulterous situation will receive a reduced sentence if he kills or wounds those involved. *(Reuter)*

Seoul rota bans cars to beat traffic jams

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN SEOUL

SEOUL yesterday adopted a rotating ban intended to ease its growing traffic problems by keeping 10 per cent of all passenger cars off the streets on weekdays. Offenders face a £500 fine.

The idea has come under attack since it was made public earlier this month, however. Critics call it a stopgap measure that still leaves the South Korean capital with streets that are too narrow and other bottlenecks that make bumper-to-bumper traffic a continual problem.

The Prime Minister's office, which has final jurisdiction over Seoul, could veto the plan, but failing that a six-month trial will begin in February.

Seoul's already congested traffic is expected to come to a near standstill next year when many of the bridges across the Han River, which divides the city, undergo repairs. The work was ordered after one bridge collapsed in the morning rush hour earlier this year, killing 32 people. Experts say that constant heavy traffic and faulty construction helped to cause the collapse.

Checks and repairs have also been ordered for tunnels and overpasses throughout Seoul.

Under the new plan, licence numbers will determine which cars must stay off the streets. For example, a car with a licence number ending in seven cannot be on the road on the 7th, 17th or the 27th day of any month. The ban would be lifted at night and weekends.

Seoul is home to a third of the nation's 44 million people and half the nation's cars. About three million already contend for space, and an average of 532 new cars a day rolled off assembly lines on to Seoul's crowded streets last year.

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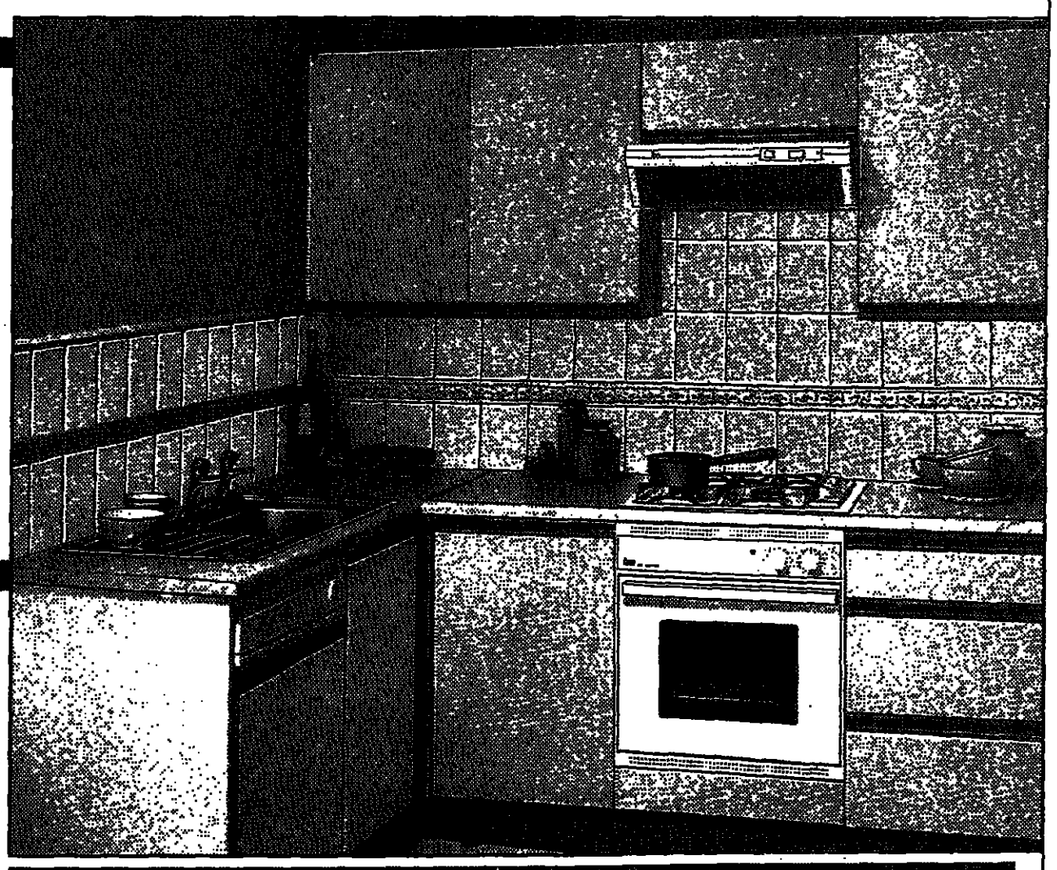

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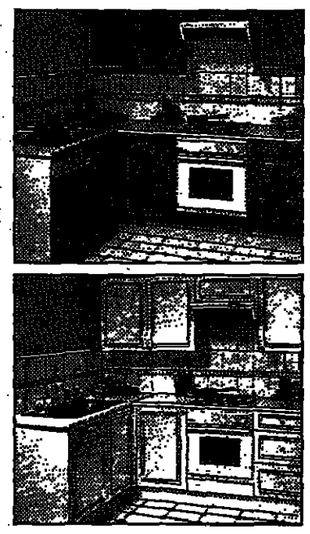

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Security increased for Haiti leader after shoot-out

BY DAVID ADAMS

IN the aftermath of the worst violence in Port-au-Prince since September, American military police have increased security around the presidential palace and are hunting for armed former Haitian soldiers who attacked the military headquarters.

Three protesters were killed and six others wounded during a shoot-out on Monday when discharged soldiers went to the Haitian military headquarters in the city centre demanding back pay. The building is across the street from the offices of President Aristide, who was restored to power by American troops in October after a three-year exile.

Yesterday about 40 US soldiers with four armoured vehicles patrolled outside the palace. In recent weeks security had been relaxed to a nine-man infantry patrol. The protesting former soldiers reportedly seized guns from a weapons locker but when they tried to leave the headquarters, they were met by American soldiers who had surrounded the building.

Troops from the US-led multinational force (MNF) opened fire when the Haitian soldiers "levelled their weapons to fire on MNF personnel", Sergeant Aimee Seabolt, a military information officer, said. There were no American casualties, she added. About 81 Haitians were detained but others are believed to have escaped with guns before the shooting began. US forces seized up to 500 weapons during a sweep of the military headquarters.

Haitian soldiers have recently found themselves without a job under a plan to scale down the army from 7,000 to 1,500 men. An American assistance plan has allocated $5 million (£3.2 million) for retraining but so far only 190 former soldiers have begun six-month training courses as clerks, car mechanics and building workers.

Local community groups and human rights activists say the threat of political violence has not fully disappeared and they have warned American officials to remain vigilant. In response to reports of rising crime, and mounting pressure from local groups and international observers, American troops began patrolling slum neighbourhoods earlier this month.

Although official policy in Washington is to avoid getting closely involved in local police work, the US military is the only credible security force in Haiti. The American presence is due to be scaled down to about 3,000 in March, as part of a 6,000-strong multinational United Nations peacekeeping force.

Many former officers in the corrupt military regime fled after the American troops landed. Others, known torturers and human rights abusers, have been expelled from the force. But victims of military abuse say too many offenders are being kept on and that they should be tried for their crimes.

Civilian police will begin four-month training courses in January at a new police academy being created with the assistance of the US Department of Justice, but it will be many months before the 4,000-strong force is fully operational.

An interim Haitian police force, made up primarily of officers from the former military regime, is being retrained. A team of international police monitors watches and evaluates their performance.

During the three years of the deposed military regime an estimated 4,000 people died in political violence. To satisfy public demands for justice without setting off a witch-hunt which might upset efforts at reconciliation, the Government is considering mounting an investigation into some of the worst crimes.

A picture released by North Korea yesterday which is purported to be Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Hall, the American pilot, just after he was captured

Jailed spy Ames says moles 'probably still active' in CIA

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

ALDRICH AMES, the former CIA officer who spent nearly a decade passing secrets to Moscow, said last night that he believed other moles were probably still at work in American intelligence.

Ames, who pleaded guilty in April to selling information, said in an interview broadcast by CNN from Allenwood federal penitentiary in Pennsylvania that his views on the subject had changed over the months.

"I think the answer is 'probably' ... I think it's likely that over the years a few, a very few have been tempted, as I was, and have worked briefly and stopped or worked again and stopped."

Ames first delivered documents to the KGB in 1985. They allowed Moscow to identify dozens of American and allied agents, at least ten of whom were killed. Others vanished or were imprisoned.

The CIA, according to Ames, does not believe he has divulged all his secrets. As a result he is in solitary confinement. The American agency has been sensitive about his access to the media. Ames praised his Moscow handlers, saying: "They were good people."

Top diplomat on mission to free American pilot in Korea

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

IN AN effort to settle a dispute causing increased concern and mystification to President Clinton, a senior American diplomat is due to cross the demilitarised zone into North Korea today to seek the release of an American helicopter pilot whose captors say is a spy.

Thomas Hubbard, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia, was sent from Washington at North Korea's request to "facilitate resolution" of the affair. At the same time, the North Koreans issued a harsh statement demanding that the United States admits — "before it is too late" — that the pilot, Army Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Hall, was on an espionage mission when he was shot down.

Chief Warrant Officer David Hilemon, Mr Hall's co-pilot, was killed in the crash. His body has been returned.

The contradiction between the belligerence of the statement and the willingness to negotiate left the Americans wondering if they were witnessing a struggle in Pyongyang, North Korea's capital, between the civilian and military leaderships.

There have been signs of a power vacuum since the death last July of North Korea's Stalinist leader, Kim Il Sung. It seems his son, Kim Jong Il, may not yet be firmly in control.

Australia poll shows swing to republic

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

AUSTRALIAN support for cutting constitutional ties with Britain has surged by 5 per cent in the past three months, according to an opinion poll yesterday.

The Newspoll survey, conducted for *The Australian* newspaper a week before Christmas, found that 47 per cent of those questioned favoured a republic, compared with 42 per cent in September.

But more significantly, the poll indicated that the strongest backing for a republic was in the 35-49 age group, where a surprising 57 per cent were in favour of change. In the 18-34 age group, support was put at 47 per cent, and 38 per cent among those over 50.

Once again men were the more fervent republicans with 53 per cent backing the idea, compared with only 41 per cent of women.

Labor Party supporters were also in favour of breaking from the United Kingdom. While 69 per cent of Labor voters supported a republic, only 34 per cent of conservative National and Liberal Party members backed the move.

Although the Australian Republican Movement will find comfort in the latest figures, it had been quietly hoping for a much greater impact on present electoral thinking.

Kerry Jones, of Australians For A Constitutional Monarchy, said: "The republican movement after all its marketing was expecting over 50 per cent support — they must be very, very disappointed this hasn't happened."

Paul Keating, the Prime Minister, is expected to deliver his official response on the republican issue in the new year. But the Labor leader, the main instigator of an end to Australia's formal links with Britain, will also have to answer key constitutional questions if he wants to win over the electorate. These will include whether he proposes to elect a future Australian president by parliament or the people. Prime ministerial support for the former will further alarm an electorate already suspicious of his motives.

Surfer at US resort killed by 20ft waves

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN HALF MOON BAY CALIFORNIA

A SKILLED surfer has been killed at a California resort that has become a traditional Christmas beach festival venue.

Mark Foo, 36, died at Maverick, fabled for waves that can reach 50ft. Foo, a co-producer of a surfing television show, had come from his home in Haleiwa, Hawaii. He fell last week while riding a 20ft wave. His board was shattered into three pieces, one of which apparently hit his head and he went under.

Several surfers behind him were knocked into the water and nearly driven into a rocky outcrop. They struggled to shore, and it was not immediately noticed that Mr Foo was still in the water. His body was found two hours later.

This week Darin Bingham, co-owner of a surf shop, said: "Things are kind of somber around here. Everyone's down, for sure.

"We've gotten away with it for so long, four, five years with no accidents, and maybe we've gotten callous to how close the dangers are," said Jeff Clark, who was a friend of the dead man.

Maverick is at Half Moon Bay, 22 miles south of San Francisco, and famed for its annual pumpkin festival, seaside horseriding and Christmas tree farms. The extraordinary waves are the product of slow-moving storms and high winds at sea.

After the surfers death, hundreds of people came to see the breakers. Only a few went into the water and fewer still ventured to Maverick.

Foo: hit on head by piece of shattered surfboard

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

John Grigg looks back on a turbulent year for the world's two largest democracies — and offers a bet for the future

The news that the headlines hid

General Colin Powell, soldier and national hero: will he run for the White House at the head of a new party?

Much attention has rightly been directed during the past year to hopeful developments in Northern Ireland, a province divided on ethnic lines (between two different Celtic tribes) and subject to a quarter of a century of communal violence, aggravated by the amount of lethal weaponry available to the warring parties. Meanwhile the far less encouraging course of events in the world's most powerful country has excited relatively little comment.

The United States is, in a sense, Northern Ireland writ very large indeed. There, too, we see profound ethnic conflict, mainly between blacks and whites, and here, too, lethal weapons are all too freely available. The difference is that America's ethnic conflict is more profound than Northern Ireland's, and the weapons in America do not have to be smuggled in but can be obtained legally. Moreover Northern Ireland enjoys, for the time being, a ceasefire, whereas there is no sign of a ceasefire on the streets of American cities.

The level of homicidal violence in the United States is awesome. According to the preliminary FBI esimate, the number of victims last year in the whole country was 24,500, by contrast with 615 in England and Wales. Even in France, one of Europe's more violent countries, the latest figure (1991) was 1,640. To take account of America's much larger population the English and French figures should, for comparison, be multiplied by five: but they are still nowhere near the American level.

In Northern Ireland 3,171 people have died in the troubles since 1969, an average of about 130 per year. This record of carnage is terrible, but American politicians who wring their hands about it (for electoral purposes) might usefully reflect that nearly 2,000 people were murdered in the single year 1992 in New York City alone.

Sonia Gandhi: could an Italian become the ruler of India?

Of course, quite a lot of American homicide has nothing to do with ethnic conflict. All the same, few would deny that the ethnic element is of great and growing importance. The country is increasingly polarised, and the situation is likely to become more acute as a result of the mid-term elections, in which about 90 per cent of those blacks who bothered to vote at all voted for the losing Democratic party.

"Who bothered to vote at all" points to an aspect of the mid-term elections which has hardly rated a mention in the very extensive news coverage of them. Though the final statistics have yet to be compiled, it seems probable that the total turnout of voters in the 1994 contest will have been about 38-39 per cent (up slightly on 1990, when it was 36.5 per cent). This is a figure which should cause much anxiety to Americans, and to democrats everywhere.

Only a few years ago we were all celebrating the collapse of communist tyranny and the triumph of democracy. But how healthy is the democratic process in the world's leading democratic country, when more than 60 per cent of its citizens stay away from the polls in an election whose potential consequences were known to be far-reaching?

The turnout is larger in voting for the Presidency than for the Congress, though still low in relation to what is at stake. In the 1992 Presidential election 61.3 per cent voted, which was an improvement on the 1988 turnout (57.4 per cent). But both figures seem very inadequate compared with 77.7 per cent in the last British general election, and 79.1 per cent in the recent federal election in Germany.

The slight increase in the number of Americans who voted in 1992, compared with 1988, was almost certainly due to the intervention of Ross Perot. Writing at this time last year, I pointed to the fact that Perot's 19 per cent vote was the largest for a third-party candidate since 1912, when a former President, Theodore Roosevelt, ran as an independent. This led me to suggest that the American electorate might be becoming disillusioned with the traditional Republican-Democrat duopoly of power.

At the time of the Gulf War I ventured to speculate that events might be creating the first black President of the United States in the person of General Colin Powell, though I was then thinking of him as a potential candidate for one of the two traditional parties, like Ike in 1952. Now, however, in the light of a recent report from Martin Fletcher ("Will they draft the general?" *The Times*, December 7, 1994), I see an even more interesting possibility — that the election of the first black President might coincide with the break-up of the old duopoly.

Without yet admitting that he might be willing to run for the presidency, Powell has left the question wide open. More than that, he has said that he is "thinking about the issues", and that a third party in 1996 would be "wonderful".

His unique strength is that he is a black American who, as a soldier and national hero, might be acceptable to many whites. Unlike Jessie Jackson, for instance, he does not combine the racial handicap with that of being associated with left-wing opinions. It may also be an advantage that, though he is the offspring of Jamaican immigrants, his skin is relatively pale. The other day I heard an American tycoon of Republican sympathies say that he had never regarded Powell as "really black".

Polls at present give him a 74 per cent approval rating. If he decides to enter the political arena, it must be on the cards that he will become not only the first black President but the first who is neither Republican nor Democrat. The triumph of a new party under his leadership would represent a fundamental change in American politics, and might encourage more Americans to exercise their right to vote.

If the fate of democratic institutions depends, to a large extent on America, it depends scarcely less upon another nation of sub-continental dimensions also with a federal structure, and with an equally diverse population — India.

But for the failures of British statecraft and of the Indian national movement during the first half of this century, India would have emerged long before now as one of the world's foremost nations. Moreover, India's progress since independence has also been somewhat hobbled by the application of socialist doctrines and controls to a community in which the instincts of private enterprise and money-making are exceptionally strong.

Now all that is changing, and India is well on the way to becoming the economic giant that its size, and the talents of its people, have always indicated it should be. Under a Prime Minister, Narasimha Rao, who is not (for a change) a member of the Nehru family, and under the more immediate guidance of an outstanding technocrat, the Finance Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh, the Indian economy is going great guns.

Already it is the twelfth largest in the world, and the third largest in Asia. In 1992 and 1993, US companies alone invested more in India than during the whole of the previous 40 years. Of the country's 900 million population, 150 million now belong to the well-educated middle class, and this element will doubtless continue to grow as a proportion of the whole.

Unfortunately the political scene is less bright than the economic. In India, as in Britain, dramatic progress in the economy is failing to bring any reward to the government. In two recent state elections, including one in the Prime Minister's home state of Andhra Pradesh, his Congress party was trounced. Though a cultivated man, he entirely lacks charisma, and his age and health are against him.

Indian democracy has received far less credit than it deserves in the outside world, and the country is altogether lamentably under-reported. Since Indira Gandhi's brief lapse into authoritarian rule, the free political system established at independence has continued to work. Governments, both at the centre and in the states, have been made and unmade by the electoral process. Voting counts in India, and Indians seem to appreciate their right to vote more than Americans currently do. At the last Indian general election, in 1991, 51 per cent voted overall.

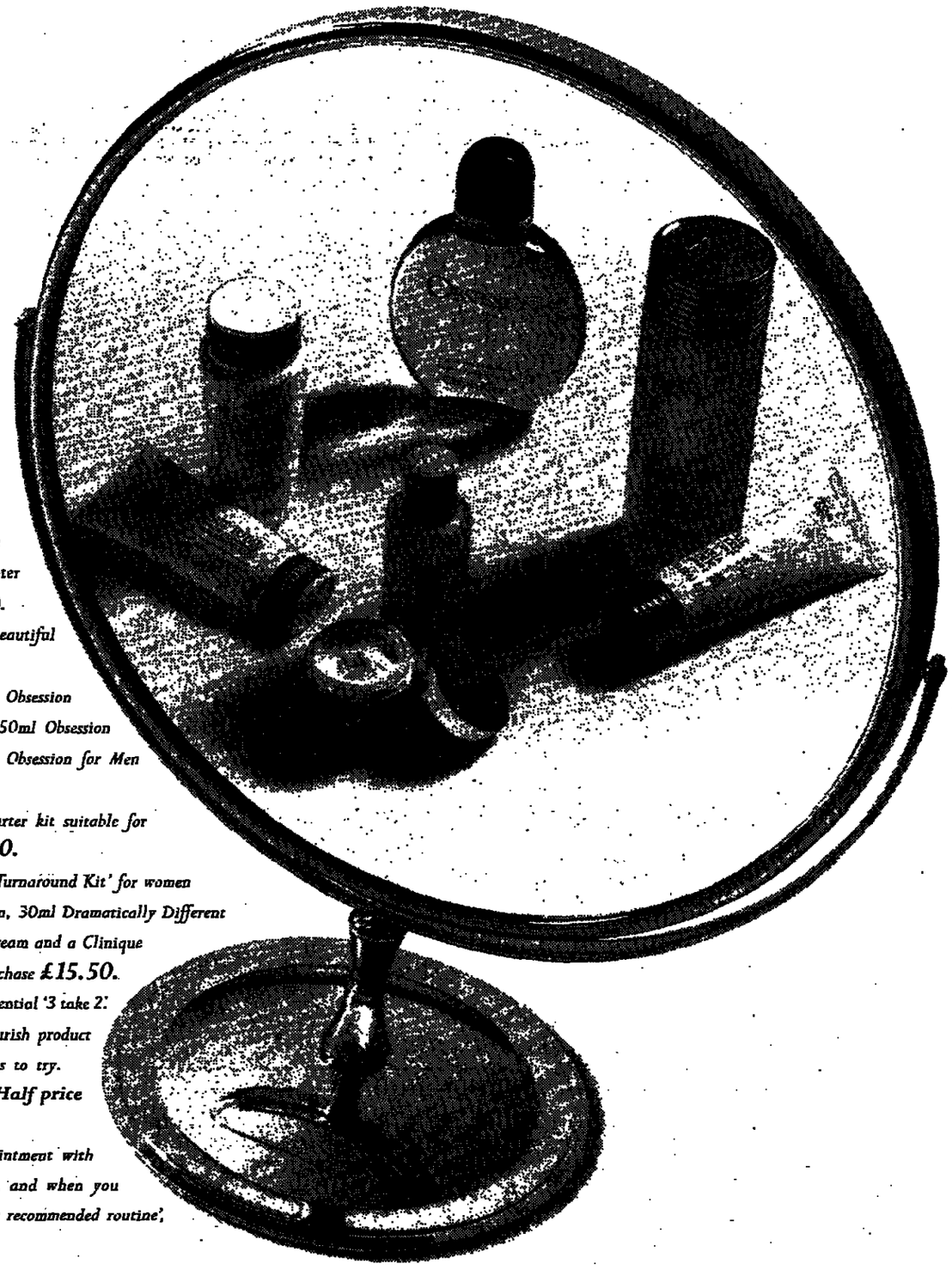
Two factors assisting the survival of democracy have been the maintenance of a vigorously free press, and the army's hitherto unwavering determination to stay out of politics. But there are serious dangers. In India, as in America, internal violence is alarmingly prevalent, and corruption almost universal. Moreover, apart from the Nehru dynasty, the country has not yet produced any dominating all-India personalities. One consequence has been that no effective alternative governing party has taken shape at the national level. Opposition to Congress has been fragmented, and such non-Congress governments as there have been have been weak coalitions.

Meanwhile, Congress itself has never emancipated itself from the impulse to turn to the Nehru family for salvation. Since the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi, his Italian-born widow, Sonia, has been under intense pressure to enter politics, which she has so far resolutely resisted. But now that the party is clearly faced with possible disaster at the next general election in 15 months' time, the pressure on her is sure to increase.

Punters might be interested in this double — that by the beginning of 1997 the United States will have a black President and India an Italian Prime Minister. At long odds this might offer a better chance of making a fortune than buying tickets in the National Lottery.

Winter Sale.

(Special offers in our Beauty House.)



The wonderful special purchases across many exclusive ranges, could cause some laughter lines (all the way to the bank). Call in and learn how to be beautiful on a budget.

Calvin Klein. *Free Obsession T-shirt with every purchase of 50ml Obsession Eau de Parfum spray or 125ml Obsession for Men Eau de Toilette spray.*

Lancôme. *Skincare starter kit suitable for your skin, special purchase £20.*

Clinique. *'Great Skin Turnaround Kit' for women containing 50ml clarifying lotion, 30ml Dramatically Different Moisturiser, 15ml Turnaround Cream and a Clinique facial soap and dish, special purchase £15.50.*

Estée Lauder. *The Essential '3 take 2': Purchase a cleanse, repair or nourish product and receive the other 2 products to try.*

Elizabeth Arden. *Half price selected skincare products.*

Clarins. *Book an appointment with Clarins for advice on skincare, and when you purchase two products from 'your recommended routine', receive your Clarins reward.*

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Certain merchandise may not be available in all stores.

Emerging from the winter sales with a sense of achievement means carefully selecting classic pieces

Sales sensibility

As soon as sale signs appear in stores warning bells start to go off. Credit cards flex their muscle, bank managers begin to sweat, and sane human beings begin to act like lottery winners.

But this winter the sales offer lots of real bargains which are well worth signing for on the dotted line. Over the last couple of seasons fashion has come to its senses and is advocating elegance and luxury. Its emphasis once again embraces classically styled clothing, even if it is tarted up with a glossy veneer of Hollywood glitz.

The sales are not the place to be starry-eyed. Quite simply,

Fashion

IAIN R. WEBB

they can be a disaster zone unless you pick and choose your purchases with care. There is one question to ask when faced with a bargain: how many times will I wear this? It's an easy equation: wears per purchase. Even if the price tag still seems a little hefty, if the garment becomes a constant in your wardrobe it will prove an economically sound acquisition.

Choose quality fabrics and straightforward styling. A cashmere cardigan or sweater in black or neutral hue will be a lifelong mainstay in your wardrobe if cared for correctly. A well-cut pair of black trousers can be worn day or night. A little black dress really is for ever.

Buying cashmere in the sales makes terrific sense, no more so than this year — with the threat of a 20 to 25 per cent rise in prices of cashmere in 1995. Go for the big names who offer top quality and the best cuts.

The latest fashion trends actually make sales buying easier. The mix of fabrics from day and night — shiny satin shirts are no longer banished till after dark — double their wearability.

Twinsets, suits and separates have all been given the seal of approval by the international fashion pack.

Shop for classics, nothing fancy will do. A practical trench-style mackintosh, an understated black dress — long or short (knee length is ideal), and plain shirts (white cotton, black sheer, or something with a sheen) are always useful. Trouser suits will prove to be a great investment. And don't forget serviceable basics — bustiers, waistcoats, snug knits, and underwear.

There will always be a fine line between an investment and an indulgence. A pair of Manolo Blahnik high heels may not appear essentially a wise buy, but when tagged with a 45 per cent reduction, there are few who can resist this ultimate temptation.

ABOVE LEFT: Petworth trench mac, £225 from £295, Aquascutum, see below. Bias cut dress, £29.99 from £54.99, Oasis, see below.

ABOVE: Cashmere cardigan, £145 from £195, The Scotch House, see below. Satin dress, £70 from £99, Whistles, see below. Shoes, £99 from £165, Gina, see below.

RIGHT: Metallic grey shirt, £19.99 from £29.99; black velvet bustier, £23 from £29.99, Wallis, see below. Crêpe trousers, £89 from £119, Jaeger, see below.

WHERE TO FIND THIS WINTER'S BARGAIN BUYS

PRINGLE
Sale now on. 93 New Bond Street, London W1. Cashmere dressing gown, £312 from £625.

MANOLO BLAHNIK
Sale starts Jan 13. 49-51 Old Church Street, London SW3. Reductions of 45 per cent on the ultimate designer shoes.

BURBERRYS
Sale now on. 18-2 Haymarket, London W1. Trench coat, £265 from £475; classic blazer, £175 from £210.

AQUASCUTUM
Sale now on. 100 Regent Street, London W1, and branches (071-734 6090).

WALLIS
Sale now on. 532 Marble Arch, Oxford Street, London W1, and branches (081-910 1333). Coats £89 from £139.

WHISTLES
Sale now on. 12-14 St Christopher's Place, London W1, and branches (071-487 4484). Cream satin dress, £65 from £95; velvet jacket, £110 from £185; satin trousers, £55 from £85.

SELFRIDGES
Sale now on. Oxford Street, London W1. MaxMara coat, £249 from £415; DKNY shirt, £80 from £160.

N.PEAL
Sale starts Dec 30. 192 Piccadilly, London W1. Long cashmere waistcoat, £169 from £225; cashmere tunic, £179 from £235.

THE SCOTCH HOUSE
Sale now on. 84-86 Regent Street, London W1, and branches (071-734 0203). Cashmere jumpers £99.50 from £140.

JAEGER
Sale now on. 200-206 Regent Street, London W1, and branches (071-494 2060). Alpaca coat, £199 from £339.

OASIS
Sale now on. 292 Regent Street, London W1, and branches (071-323 5978). Neon satin jackets, £29.99 from £64.99; sateen trousers, £21.99 from £44.99.

GINA
Sale now on. 189 Sloane Street, London SW1, and branches (071-235 2932). Reductions on designer shoes.

COUNTRY CASUALS
Sale now on. Barkers, Kensington High Street, London W8 (071-987-5181). Double-breasted coat with fake fur collar, £149 from £299.

SPACE NK
Sale now on. 41 Earlham Street, London WC2. Thirty to 50 per cent off Liza Bruce, Abe Hamilton, Osprey.

PAUL COSTELLOE
Sale now on. 156 Brompton Road, London SW3 (071-589 9480). Thirty to 50 per cent reductions.

SALVATORE FERRAGAMO
Sale starts Jan 7. 24 Old Bond Street, London W1. Thirty to 50 per cent reductions.

MARGARET HOWELL
Sale now on. 24 Brook Street, London W1. Velvet robe, £145 from £225; trousers, £85 from £145.

RIGBY & PELLER
Sale starts Jan 3. 2 Hans Road, Knightsbridge, London SW1. Fifty per cent off lingerie, corsetry and swimwear.

RED OR DEAD
Sale starts Jan 5. 36 Kensington High Street, London W8. Fifty per cent reductions.

HARRODS
Sale starts Jan 4. Brompton Road, Knightsbridge, London SW1. Ballantyne cashmere ribbed tunic, £249 from £365; Harrods white cotton shirt, £29.95 from £49; Ben de Lisi jackets, £89 from £189.

JOSEPH
Sale now on. 26 Sloane Street, London SW1. Moschino Cheap and Chic shiny jacket, £157.50 from £225; black smoking pants, £85 from £155.

HARVEY NICHOLS
Sale now on. Knightsbridge, London SW1. Up to 50 per cent selected items.

WAREHOUSE
Sale now on. 19-21 Argyle Street, London W1. Reductions from 20 per cent.

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such as twinsets, suits and separates in quality fabrics, which will become mainstays in your wardrobe

ABOVE: Beige polo neck sweater, £59 from £118; oyster satin knee-length pleated skirt, £84.50 from £169, Betty Jackson, Selfridges, see facing page, and Liberty, Regent Street, London W1.

LEFT: Checked tweed jacket, £125 from £175; matching trousers, £55 from £85, Austin Reed, 103 Regent Street, W1; selected branches. White shiny shirt, £19.99 from £29.99, Wallis, see facing page. Black Ultrabra bra, £14.99, branches of Debenhams, Fenwicks, House of Fraser. Black shoes, Gina, see facing page. Sheer tights, £3.25, Ultra Five, Aristoc, from department stores nationwide.

Photographs by ROD NISSEN-PETZER

Make-up by Stephanie Jenkins

Hair by Gordon Pindar at Brinks & Huck

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Alan Coren

■ For once, a writer who would be delighted to stare at a blank page

Dear W.H. Smith: Every year for the past 31, Santa has brought me your Day-to-a-Page Pocket Diary. That is because Santa knows what I want. He has been spoken to firmly by my wife and put unequivocally in the diurnal picture. He knows that I require nothing of a diary save that it has a day to a page and fits into a pocket. He knows that while you produce any number of specialist diaries to suit all sorts and dispositions of men, from lepidopterists and cobblers to sous-chefs and balletomanes, in sizes so various that the smallest easily fits into an ear and the largest barely fits into a Volvo, and discretely gobbeted with arcana as disparate as early closing day in Surinam and the optimum bore for shooting peccary, I want none of any of this. I want only a different date at the top of each page, and room beneath for exactly 100 longhand words. That is what I expect to find in the toe of my stocking every Christmas morning, just below the walnut whip and just above the tangerine, and for 31 years I have not been disappointed.

Which is why I am writing to you now. Especially as you have invited me to. You have done this on the flyleaf of my new 1995 diary, where there is a tiny detachable questionnaire explaining that you have, this year, made a change and would like my opinion of it. And since it is so tiny that I had room to write only "My opinion is that you have buggered the diary up completely", I thought I would take this opportunity to elaborate, in order that it should come as no surprise to you, when you return to your Swindon HQ from your festive break, to find a man standing in the forecourt chucking bricks through your windows.

For the change you have made is the wanton introduction of adages, maxims, saws, bromides, canons, axioms — all those gee-gaws which sound as though they come from a Victorian dentist's toolbox, and might as well have, for all the pleasure they bring. What they in fact bring is ruin to a vast amount of what, without them, might be quite decent pottery, embroidery, calendars, pokerwork, and similar artefacts, and now, and most irritatingly of all, to your Day-to-a-Page Pocket Diary.

Look at the page for January 1. In 1994, it told me only that it was January 1. In 1995, it tells me: "Seize the day: trust the morrow as little as possible. HORACE (65-8 BC). Roman poet." It tells me it, moreover, in print so microscopic that I first read it as "trust the marrow as little as possible", and was, I admit, briefly diverted by its imponderability, until I put my glasses on. Now, having at last deciphered this handy Horatian tip, what am I supposed to do with it, except rage at the room it has taken up which might far more valuably have been used to jot: "Take 2 copies of Alan Bennett back to Hatchards, send thank-u notes to all 3 donors, get haircut"? Should I instead sit mulling the hoary aperçu, perhaps act upon it, rush out and seize Jan 1 by the scruff, come home again in good time to start dreading Jan 2? Or flip on to Jan 15, and ponder: "Better three hours too soon than a minute too late. WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE", an apophthegm useful only to those seeking comfort in the fact that the national hack had his off-days, too, but that can't be why you put it in, Smith. Unless, of course, you were the Mr W.H. who was the onlie begetter of the ensuing sonnets, and were simply repaying the acknowledgement; a mite unlikely given that the last time I asked for poetry in one of your outlets I was told that you might have some somewhere, try behind that box-file display.

Shall I check my birthday? Oh, look, "Rain before seven, fine before eleven. PROVERB"; that's good to know, I shall write beneath it: "Get up late, leave brolly in stand, smear sunbloc on nose"; how lucky I wasn't born on September 10: "Life consists of what a man is thinking of all day. RALPH WALDO EMERSON". I should have to spend all day trying to think of what the old fool might have been banging on about.

This is a bad business. A diary is not for other people's thoughts. So since you have a fancy for the potted sooth, let me offer, in answer to your plea for feedback, this from dear old Chesterton: "Chuck it, Smith!"

Better than the state or the family, communities really do hold Americans together, says **Michael Elliott**

Bring back the sense of belonging

In the suburb of Washington where I live, Christmas week means fairy-lights strung around front gardens (we don't keep them hidden indoors). Neighbours are inviting each other to drinks; the local school has just had an "international day", at which parents had to cook food from their home countries. Two weeks ago, the minister at our church said he could not budget properly for next year unless he got $45,000 in collections before January, and I bet he will. So all the aspects of life in a pleasant community are on show.

"Community" has become an over-used word in politics on both sides of the Atlantic. It's a safe bet that there'll soon be a reaction: a slew of earnest pieces avowing that community spirit is self-ish, or misguided, or a veil for special pleading, or a pointless nostalgia for yesterday. Yet the vitality and variety of American community associations, which transfixed Alexis de Tocqueville *150 years ago, are still evident, and they* still seem to offer a hopeful path to an active, engaged, democracy. "Wherever, at the head of some great undertaking", wrote de Tocqueville, "you see the government in France, or a man of rank in England, in the United States you will be sure to find an association." True then; true now.

Last month, America held an election, widely considered epochal. On our block it might as well not have happened. There were virtually no bumper stick-ers, no enthusiasm one way or another. Yet when our county school — with 300 children — held a parents' night recently, about 450 adults showed up. Our parent-teacher association has 27 committees. Parents volunteer time for everything from the computer lab to extra French classes. At a neighbouring school (the one to which the present Editor of *The Times* sent his children when he lived in these parts), parents are now funding an endowment of many thousands of dollars to supplement the budget from the county.

And it isn't just education which we look after. The county has just given the *local park to our community* associ-ation. There are no competitive sports in our elementary schools, so we organise them ourselves: on any Saturday morn-ing there are more parent-organised football games going on than anywhere west of Hackney Marshes. We run a neighbourhood pool and tennis club, and all the local churches run nursery schools. The one I attend, not as often as I should, has its own music programme, in which the English baritone John Shirley-Quirke sang on Christmas Day.

It is easy to say that all this activity is just the manifestation of wealth, and it is true that southern Maryland is prosper-ous, but it is also true that churches and neighbourhood associations are thriv-ing everywhere, and can probably do more than they are now asked to do. I can hardly believe that the black churches in Anacostia, Washington's ghetto, would do a worse job of administering health and welfare pro-grammes than the city government. But the important point is a larger one. Communities fill the gap left by the collapse of authority in two institutions: the state and the family.

In both Europe and America, the end of the Cold War and the triumph of liberal economics has robbed national politics of its bite. Politics deserved the attention which we all give it only when two plausible alternative ways of ordering the world were on offer. But now political discourse has been squashed into a narrow channel, where men vie with each other over the best way to manage capitalism. This is, and always has been, particularly true of the United States. Compared with the ideological cleavage in the old British politics (but not the new), the distance between Newt Gingrich and Bill Clinton can be measured in cigarette papers.

Yet if politicians are not engaged in a grand ideological contest, why should we pay much heed to what professional politicians say? They rarely have much to offer on the issues that really bother us: how to stop the kids from watching trashy videos, or how to divide time between work and home. These guard-ians of the state, moreover, are an odd, self-selected bunch. The dirty secret of all political journalists is that most of the men and women we write about are the kinds of people one would dread meeting on holiday. And even if they were not, we now know that many of the "programmes" that politicians and their minions run in our name are bloated, wasteful and miss the mark.

All of this has undermined the loyalty we offer the politically organised state. And yet at a time of great change in the industria-lised West — mass migration, new technologies rendering old skills otiose, competition from countries we once pitied — we need some protection from the turmoil of the public arena. If not the state, then what will protect us?

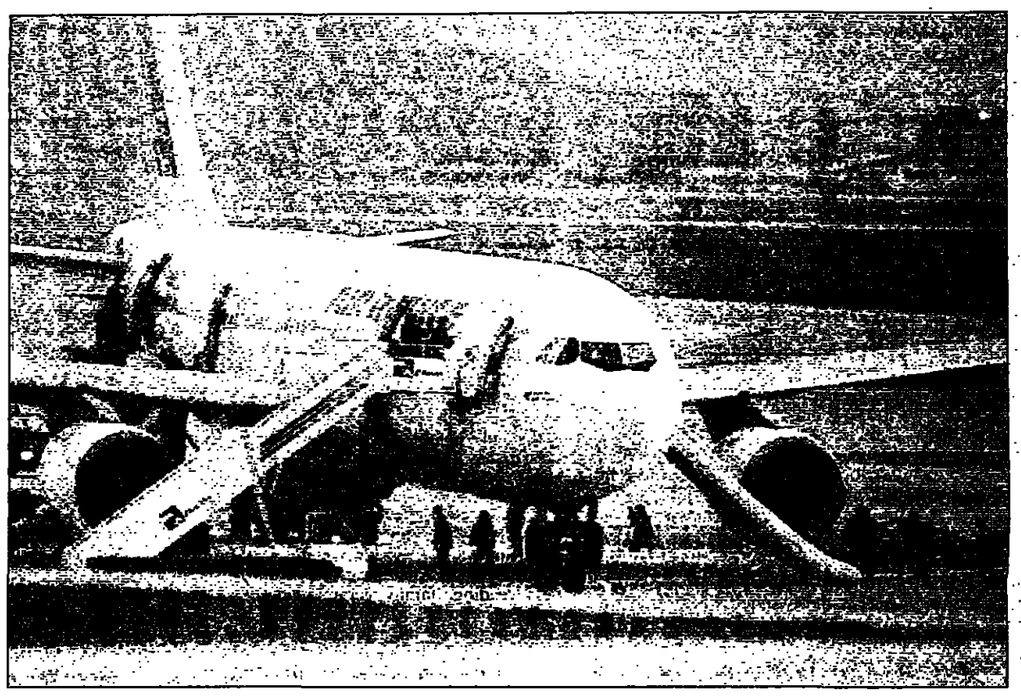
For most of the past hundred years, the answer would have been "the family" — a unit (of recent history) in which a man worked outside the house, a woman within it; there were a few children, who all survived childhood, and the spouses stayed married 'til death did them part. But that "family" has gone, and there's precious little sign that any recent change of political fortunes will bring it back. (For the record, both Newt Gingrich and Bob Dole, the Republican leader in the Senate, are divorced.) It has gone not just because of divorce and the economic and social pressures which led to the rise of working women (important, and often beneficial though those are). My own family, for example, is loving and unwracked by marital breakdown — but spread over four continents.

That is one reason why I am glad to live in something proud to think of itself as a community. Everyone knows the word has been misused and appropriat-ed by pressure groups (the "arts com-munity", the "Aids community" and so on); that is all old hat. The real task for the future of Western democracy is to find non-exclusive forms of self-govern-ment — true communities.

My guess is that if de Tocqueville came back today, he would still think that such communities stood more chance of success in America than anywhere else. At least, he would think that in this neck of the woods, around Christmas.

The author is diplomatic editor of Newsweek.

France's Algerian legacy



Charles Bremner reports from Marseilles on how the hijacking has stirred up old fears of Muslim fundamentalists

Shock and relief had turned some passengers garrulous as they milled around Marseilles air-port after their deliverance by French commandos on Monday night. "They were nice kids . . . absolute gentle-men . . . well dressed, polite but really naïve. They were convinced God was on their side and they tried to convert us . . ." I had to remind myself that these French-resident Algerians were speak-ing of the four terrorists who had just subjected them to two-and-a-half days of hell, murdering in cold blood two fellow passengers as well as a guard. But allowing for the effects of shock and the Stockholm syndrome, one could glimpse in this portrait of the young hijackers the seductive power of a force which is running bloody rings around the mili-tary-led regime of Algeria, sowing fear in France and disarray in the Govern-ment of Edouard Balladur.

Of course, the storming of Airbus Echo Charlie was a triumph for the rule of law over the forces of evil. The terror-ists were administered a spectacular lesson, and M Balladur was able to claim that France had demonstrated to the world its refusal to bow to blackmail. The textbook operation gives a much-needed aura of resolve to an often indeci-sive Premier, as he campaigns to succeed President Mitterrand in the spring. It also burnishes the already shining armour of Charles Pasqua, the Interior Minister and power behind the Balladur throne, who has made a crus-ade out of the fight against Muslim ex-tremism both inside and outside France.

There is, however, a colder analysis, which M Balladur and his team examined yesterday when they met to try to sort out a clearer approach to the turmoil in France's former colony.

For a start, in the martyr's logic of the fanatic, the hijackers of the Armed Islamic Group (GIA) may not have won the Paris press conference they wanted, and the world was spared the horror of suicide aerial bombing of Paris, but the hijackers claimed the publicity objective which they had sought. They demon-strated the ability of their urban underground army to defy President Zeroual's formidable security appara-tus. They humiliated the regime by overriding — with the reluctant help of the French Government — Algiers's de-termination not to allow the aircraft to leave. They instigated a row between Algeria and Paris, and yesterday caused France to suspend air and sea passenger services to Algeria. By landing in France, they fulfilled the GIA's pledge to bring their holy war to their Great Satan. Above all they forced the world to take notice of a secret war that is killing a thousand people a week, and they did so on a date loaded with double symbolism. The weekend was not only the great festival of Christendom, but it marked the third anniversary of the elections which would have carried to power the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) had the military not intervened to cancel the second round.

Abdelsalam Yaya, the former hair-dresser who led the Airbus seizure, suc-ceeded in rubbing in a painful truth. Nearly 33 years since the rebels of the FLN wrested their independence from Paris after a long, savage war, France has been unable to avoid a role in a replay every bit as dirty, which is echoing in the immigrant ghettos.

Three decades on from independence, emotion over Algeria still runs high. Wounds are still open, especially among the Pieds Noirs, the dispossessed colo-nists, among the Harkis, the Algerians who fought for France, and among the young *Beurs*, the million or so offspring of immigrants who often find them-selves excluded from work and accep-tance in the country of their birth. To draw a rough British parallel, you would have to add the legacy of the Imperial subcontinent to the proximity and passion of the Irish conflict.

Genuine causes for vigilance over ter-rorism are fuelling old-fashioned fears about foreigners, so breeding intoler-ance. The plight of the disinherited young *Beurs* of the *banlieue* is making them ready material for proselytising militants. This in turn feeds alarm about Koranic schools being terrorist training grounds. In recent months M Pasqua's police have rounded up some 300 sus-pects and uncovered a handful of armed caches. This is evidence, they say, that the FIS and the GIA are trying to build a base in France, financed by "revolu-tionary taxes" imposed on Muslim shopkeepers. M Pasqua cannot under-stand, he says, why Britain, Germany and other states do not keep more of a check on their Muslim populations.

In this atmosphere, it is understand-able that a worried public wants the police to keep an even closer eye on foreigners — monitoring, among other things, satellite dishes on immigrant housing estates — and M Balladur's decree banning girls from wearing Muslim headcovering in the classroom is overwhelmingly supported. Chal-lenged on the subject, the Prime Minis-ter says there is nothing unhealthy about the headscarf rule. France is being loyal to its tradition of promoting integration rather than encouraging diversity as practised by the Anglo-Saxon countries, he says.

If you talk to French ministers about Algeria, they adopt an air of fatality, using words like tragedy and impotence. In gloomier moments, some sketch dark visions of a fundamentalist tide, born in Iran and Afghanistan, sweeping across the Mahgreb through Tunisia and Al-geria to Morocco. This nightmare is common in the salons of the Left Bank, where they once sang the praises of the freedom fighters of the FLN. In the book of the season, the celebrity philosopher Bernard Henri-Lévy argues that the big-gest danger to the world now is the attraction of the all-encompassing, puri-fying creed, a mixture of messianic religion and nationalism.

This emotional background chimes with France's sense these days of being under cultural siege, and it has clearly coloured what critics see as the mis-handling by successive governments in Paris of relations with Algeria since the 1992 elections were abandoned. Rela-tions with the Algerian Government had never been easy. However, fear of the emergence of a totalitarian mullahs' regime has led Paris to support what amounts to a bankrupt ruling power in-capable of shedding the corruption and mismanagement which have squander-ed the wealth of what was once France's most prosperous colony. M Balladur insists, as he did again yesterday, that France wants to see dialogue between the Government and the FIS leaders, and wants democracy in Algeria. This has been the line of Alain Juppé, the For-eign Minister, too, but the stronger message from Paris has come with econ-omic and military aid, support through the International Monetary Fund and above all with the stance of M Pasqua.

A redoubtable Gaullist, M Pas-qua says simply that there is no such thing as a moderate fundamentalist, so all support must be given to preventing the arrival in power of Islamic regimes. The effect of this has been to encourage intransi-gence in the Zeroual Government in Algeria, as its forces resort to ever more brutal methods. France has been demonised in the eyes of the insurgents, and French interests have become a prime target. The murder yesterday of three French clerics brought to 25 the total of French killed since the GIA declared war in September 1993.

French policy has played into the hands of the zealots, by accentuating de-spair and misery in urban areas such as the Euclayptus, the Algiers ghetto that is a bastion of the GIA and home of the dead hijackers. On the eve of the aborted elections, the leadership of the FIS was talking of reform and partnership with America and the West. Now, with its leaders under house arrest, in prison or in exile, the FIS has swung to more a extreme position, as it has been eclipsed by the GIA and its campaign against intellectuals and artists.

The GIA wants no compromise, just a *jihad* to rid the planet of the infidel. It was burning devotion to this cause which shone from the Air France hijack-ers. The story could have been very different, according to some experts and politicians. Jean-François Deniau, a respected thinker who served in the Government of President Giscard d'Es-taing, says France has bought the worst of both worlds by failing to distance itself from the Zeroual regime: "We have given credibility to those in the FIS who are leading a combat against Western civilisation," he says.

If such views are not being heard more loudly, it is because Algeria is so much a domestic issue and France is in the midst of presidential campaign. A fresh approach may come with a new president next May, but in the mean-time no one wants to suggest weakness towards *les barbus*, the diabolical mullahs who have become bogeymen in the public mind.

Back to work

SENIOR TORY peers are angling for Lord Caithness to return to the Government in the next reshuffle, I learn. The Lords' leader, Viscount Cranborne, has told colleagues that he wants Caithness back, so long as backbenchers do not object.

After resigning his £46,000-a-year job as Transport Minister in January, after his wife Diana com-mitted suicide, the 20th Earl briefly claimed unemployment benefit and took some consultancy work. His main concern has been caring for his two children, Lady Iona and Lord Berriedale. But Cranborne sorely misses his expertise at handling "awkward" Bills — and even more awkward Tory peers.

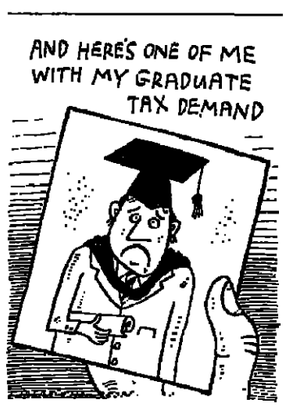
"Malcolm knows just what the peers will and will not take — he can sniff a defeat a mile off," huffs a fellow ex-minister. "Now he's done his period of penance in what must have been a perfectly ghastly year, we are hoping he'll return."

Caithness, 46, is most likely to go back to the whips' office, where he started his political career a decade ago. This would be several rungs below his most recent post, and would command a lower salary. But my source says: "I'd put money on him being deputy chief whip. It would put him on the road to a complete rehabilitation."

Beribboned

THE 100th anniversary of France's cordon bleu school will be cele-brated in London next summer in daunting fashion. A mélange of 26 chefs who hold the treasured ribbon will congregate in one kit-chen to produce a once-in-a-life-time feast.

One honoured guest will be France's Ambassador to the Court of St James's. His Excellency Jean Gueguinou, who holds pronounced preferences in the food and wine department. "He is a Breton, so he drinks cider," divulgues one who recently supped with him. "And he likes champagne and red wine — but he *doesn't* drink white wine."



THE TIMES DIARY

● *A sadly apposite piece by John Osborne catches my eye in the lat-est* Spectator *diary column: "To be 65 is indeed a misfortune, an ap-prehension itself demanding at-tention and concentration. I am haunted by thoughts of the things I may never do again," he writes with poignant prescience.*

Pup talk

WHILE the bulldog is perceived as the most quintessentially British of beasts, its future may lie across the Atlantic. Breeders are reporting a sharp drop in popularity over here, while the Bulldog Club of America gleefully tells of a rush for bulldog pups.

Our bulldog associations are now fighting back with member-ship drives, while one devotee, Su-san Jay, the owner of Quintic, which featured in the D-Day cele-brations, wants the breed declared a national treasure. "I've always felt that the bulldog's temperament and characteristics typified the Bri-tish," she growls. "It is a dog of quiet courage and determination."

No smoke...

JUDGE GAUNT'S choice of film during a Christmas Day game of charades proved disastrously apt. Just as he was trying to convey the title of *The Towering Inferno*, the beam above the fireplace in his 17th-century Oxfordshire home burst into flames.

"As we sat down for charades, *The Towering Inferno* had seemed a good clue for the game," says Nick Gaunt, a deputy district judge. "We noticed a funny smell but just ignored it. Then we real-ised the beam above the fireplace was smouldering." Fortunately the fire was put out and the day saved.

$tatuesque

WASHINGTON's memorial to that great First Lady Eleanor Roo-sevelt will be erected with help from a distinguished benefactor — the Queen Mother. According to the memorial fund, Her Majesty has made a "significant" contribu-tion to the $10 million fund for the very first statue of an American President's wife.

Veteran royal-watchers are sur-prised, because the two women never achieved the sort of cam-araderie of Franklin D. and King George VI, which profoundly in-fluenced Anglo-American relations during the war.

In 1942, while visiting England to look at our women's war efforts, the First Lady called on the Queen, Queen Mary and Mrs Churchill. Penelope Mortimer, in her biogra-phy of the Queen Mother, reports that the talks were not wholly suc-cessful. "She had got on very well with the last, but her visits to the first two had been *quite* a strain."

P·H·S

The Queen Mother has contributed to the first statue of a First Lady

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هكذا من الأصل

FROM MOSCOW TO GROZNY

Yeltsin is losing the war on the home front

President Boris Yeltsin finally put his case for the Chechenia operation to the people of Russia yesterday — 17 days after ordering Russian forces into the breakaway republic. His appearance was 17 days too late, in the opinion of a deeply distressed public. For the first time in Russian history, ordinary people have been exposed to probing and critical reporting of a war on Russian soil. They have seen Grozny's gutted buildings and wounded civilians on television. Mr Yeltsin's performance, combative and sombre at its best but degenerating into something close to fantasy when he turned to the situation on the ground, is unlikely to restore his standing in their eyes.

Setting his face firmly against retreat, Mr Yeltsin set out the legal and pragmatic grounds for the use of force clearly enough. His predicament is genuine. Chechenia does represent an internal threat to the cohesion and security of the Russian Federation. Cultures which were repressed under communism must be given room to breathe: yet there is a constitutional distinction between the Chechens' right to recognition as a people, and their claim to full sovereign independence. Were Russia to let Chechenia go, it would not only lose important oilfields and communications routes; it could face the prospect of a string of unstable Muslim statelets, from the Black Sea to the Caspian.

General Dudayev, the Chechen strongman, has moreover made no pretence of acting within the law. For three years, he has refused to negotiate over the republic's status, as others such as Tatarstan have done. His unilateral declaration of independence in 1991, never recognised by Moscow, has not even been democratically endorsed in Chechenia itself. Negotiation is in the Chechens' interest, because legally, even if they voted freely for independence, this would have to be endorsed by a Russia-wide referendum and by both houses of the federal parliament. At home, General Dudayev's claim to political legitimacy is, in addition, quite as dubious as Mr Yeltsin asserts; and he has made the republic a base for gangster activities which destabilise the federation.

Mr Yeltsin's problem is that none of these arguments fully answers the question on Russian lips: if these people are Russians, why kill them? The indiscriminate bombing of Grozny has converted a necessary campaign against General Dudayev and his armed bands into a war against the people. Mr Yeltsin gave way yesterday where it was imperative to do so, by calling a halt to the air raids which have caused most civilian casualties. But one reason for these raids has been the deep divisions within Russia's military and the reluctance of Russian army conscripts to shoot "fellow-Russians", even when they have taken up arms illegally.

The President has staked his reputation on reversing the semi-mutinous state of his troops. If he fails, the disintegration of his authority could follow. But he has not helped his case by presenting this operation as little more than a police action: the troops ringing Grozny know better, and so does the public. He failed to hold out the prospect of a political solution modelled on the Tatarstan precedent; yet political solution there must one day be. Above all, he made no apology for short-circuiting not just the Russian parliament but most of his own government.

The Yeltsin who stood on a tank to defend the rule of law was politically impregnable; the Yeltsin who appears to hide behind tanks is weak. Warfare requires a tight chain of command. But Russian democrats rightly fear the growing dominance of the FSK (the renamed KGB) and of the interior ministry; and a defence minister discredited by corruption cannot serve as counterweight. Mr Yeltsin appealed for trust yesterday; his handling of this crisis must from now on be such as to warrant it.

A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD

The academic gold standard should not be squandered

Since its introduction in 1951, the A level has been a prestigious educational fixture whose structure has since evolved. The percentage of candidates achieving high marks has also fluctuated; this year, for the first time, more than half of the grades awarded were A, B or C. In spite of these changes, however, confidence in Britain's academic "gold standard" remains high among employers and university admissions officers. For this reason, all attempts to tinker with the currency should be regarded with scepticism.

As we report today, a new trend is emerging in A level syllabuses which could transform the nature of the examination and the import of the qualification it gives a school-leaver. Conventionally, candidates sit A level papers at the end of their last term at school, after two years' preparation. Increasingly, however, schools are opting for new "modular" syllabuses which break up A levels into smaller courses. Pupils must complete a certain number of "modules" in order to obtain an overall A level grade in a subject.

This does not alter the way in which candidates are assessed. The balance between coursework and formal examination is no different in modular courses than in conventional syllabuses. What has changed is the degree of flexibility granted to the examinee. Pupils are now given four years in which to accrue the modules required for an A level. Along the way, they may re-sit individual papers in which they obtain unsatisfactory marks. Candidates build up their grades systematically over many months, in contrast to the conventional system which requires a burst of concentrated effort at the end of a course. Under the new arrangement, a pupil does not even have to perform consistently.

Modular courses are not without attraction. They enable candidates to pace themselves, to move in and out of education and to take examination credits from one course to another. Yet these benefits are far better suited to university courses than to the last years at school. At the age of 17 and 18, the development of intellectual rigour and scholarly discipline should be paramount. Traditionally, the basis of the A level has been that a pupil can achieve a degree of expertise in a particular subject by two years of intensive pursuit. At the end of the process, his expertise is tested by an intellectually stretching series of examinations. This is the key to the A level's success.

The modular system is clearly quite different. The significance and value of the results it produces may be quite different too. This seems to appeal to many examiners, some of whom even look forward to a 100 per cent pass rate. This should be avoided at all cost. The purpose of the A level is not to shelter teenagers from failure or to fill university classrooms with young people who ought not to be there. Higher education is an opportunity earned by academic performance, rather than a right which every teenager enjoys regardless of ability. The A level is too precious an asset to be diluted in the name of educational fad. It is for the advocates of modular courses to prove that the examination is safe in their hands.

ETERNAL PLUM

February 1975: Wodehouse dies, but Bertie will never grow old

"Jeeves! Jeeves!" I croaked. The sound was more like a grasshopper's chirrup than the light baritone which has been in popular demand at smokers' concerts at the Drones' since the Great War. "Jeeves!" I squeaked again, like the aforesaid g. with a dull pain between its antennae. "What is the date?"

The faithful retainer shimmered in as discreetly as ever and drew back the curtains. Jeeves is quite amazing. Age cannot wither him, nor custom stale his infinite sagacity, as I have heard him observe *in re* some-brainy colleague at the Junior Ganymede. I put it down to the quantities of Fish Fingers he devours. Not even on my most hair-raising seaside adventure have I ever run across a fish with fingers. But what Jeeves calls "ichthyan appendages" come without bones, which makes chewing easier for those who are no longer, as he says, "quorate" in teeth.

"It is Wednesday morning, sir," replied Jeeves. "I have brought your Prozac with a dose of Mulliner's Buck-U-Uppo." "Not the day, the date, Jeeves," I chirruped. "It will be 1995 in three days' time, sir," he replied with his customary acuity, if that was the word I was groping for.

My memory is not what it was when I won a prize for Scripture Knowledge at the Rev. Aubrey Upjohn's hell-hole at Bramley-on-Sea. Nowadays I flicker at the cusp of time and motion, names and dates. "We have a significant anniversary in 1995, Jeeves," I chirruped. "But I am dashed if I can put my finger on it." "You will be referring to the death of our beloved Master in February 20 years ago," said Jeeves. "Not before time, Her Majesty knighted him just before his death, so we refer to him as Sir Pelham."

I was aghast. Seldom has my ghast been more aggravated. "Jeeves," I cried. "But this is so ageing. I have made my reputation as a young man about town, overflowing with oomph. But if our dear creator died 20 years ago at 93, that makes you and me well over 100. Who is that chappy you told me about who was so cheesed off by the advance of senility? Toothbrush? Tea-tray? Tit-box?"

"You may be referring to Tithonus, sir, who fell in love with Eos, the dawn goddess. She besought Zeus to make Tithonus immortal, but carelessly omitted to obtain immortal youth for him. The late Alfred, Lord Tennyson, quoted Tithonus' complaint: 'Me only cruel immortality consumes: I wither slowly in thine arms.' But Sir Pelham gave us, as fictional stars, immmortal youth. We inhabit the utopia that stretches from Blandings Castle to the bar of the Angler's Rest. Age shall not weary you nor the years condemn."

I must say, the old heart was touched. I felt a stirring of the old salad days. "Jeeves," I ventured, "You know that Zimmer frame with the Old Etonian stripes which I had delivered from New and Lingwood, and which you observed with jaundiced eye. You may get rid of it." "Thank you, sir," replied the eternal J. "I have already taken the liberty of giving it to the hall porter, who is using it to display his gentlemens' letters and messages. Will that be all, sir?" "No, it will not, Jeeves. You and I are around for ever."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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History lessons for the parties

From Mr Robert Ingle

Sir, Peter Riddell is right to draw attention to the position of the Balfour Government during 1903-05 and compare it with the Major Government of today ("A Balfour for our times?", December 19). The landslide election of 1906 to which he refers resulted in the Conservatives being reduced to a mere 147 seats in the House of Commons, but who would have forecast then that for over half the coming century Britain would be ruled by Conservative governments or coalitions led by them?

The immediate beneficiary in 1906 was the "new" Liberal Party dominated by David Lloyd George — and where is it today? The "new" Labour Party of Tony Blair is the apparent beneficiary of the current tumult in the Conservative Party because it is presently able to say what so many people want to hear. But should the tide continue and return it to power at the next election, what then?

I am sure that Mr Blair knows well enough that the strains and fissures in his party, particularly concerning the question of Europe, will begin to reach the surface the moment it takes over the reins of government and is forced to address problems with more than rhetoric.

How can we preserve ancient English liberties while becoming more involved in a Europe whose states have never quite shared them, despite their many revolutions? The party which can square that political circle may well turn out to govern for the major part of the next century.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT INGLE,
9 Hanbury Road, Evington, Leicester.
December 19.

TV viewing habits

From Mrs Veronica Tuke

Sir, Alexandra Frean's analysis of "What the ABCIs really watch" (December 21) gives a more realistic picture of their viewing habits than their loves and hates.

None of the top eight programmes start before 21.30; all but one of the lowest scoring programmes started before 18.30.

I would suggest that it is rarely before 21.30 that an ABC1 can sit down and watch television: whether it is late working, catching up on business reading, family commitments (such as putting the recalcitrant darlings to bed or, heaven forbid, having a family dinner at the table).

As for my own viewing habits? If only. By 22.00 I am stumbling up to bed, considering myself lucky to have watched anything during the day. I guess that makes me a GTBO (Gone To Bed, zero hours watching).

Yours faithfully,
VERONICA TUKE,
38 Dordrecht Road, Acton, W3.
December 21.

From V & A to UEA

From Professor David Lowenthal

Sir, Your columnist Janet Daley (December 15) rightly lauds Elizabeth Esteve-Coll, whose departure for the University of East Anglia from the V & A (report, December 13) will, I have no doubt, be mourned by the public, her colleagues, and her staff. But why then attribute "shameless contempt for the aspirations of the common man" to "left-wing intellectuals"? It was *right*-wing snobs who reiterated Pope-Hennessey's "vulgar populist" slur against Mrs Esteve-Coll.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID LOWENTHAL,
56 Crown Street,
Harrow on the Hill, Middlesex.
December 15.

From the Reverend Dr P. J. Galloway

Sir, So Mrs Esteve-Coll is to become "the first woman vice-chancellor of a traditional university". What about Dame Lillian Penson of the University of London (1948-51) and Dame Rosemary Murray of the University of Cambridge (1975-77)? Not traditional enough?

Yours sincerely,
PETER GALLOWAY,
The Vicarage,
Lyncroft Gardens, NW6.
December 13.

Preserving archives for the nation

From Dr John Drewe

Sir, In 1990 the Board of Trade's library collection of parliamentary sessional papers, comprising 11,080 volumes dating from 1801 to 1945, was sold intact to a group of booksellers. It has since been resold to an institution in Japan.

Mr Ken Mallaber, librarian at the Board of Trade from 1951 to 1975, had obtained from other libraries those volumes needed to fill gaps in his collection. Consequently, all the other sets of sessional papers, I believe, are significantly less complete. Although the Board of Trade papers were used to make the microfilm copy which is now generally available, doubts have been raised as to whether every paper was in fact catalogued and photographed over the many years required for the task.

There are a number of reasons why a photographic record is not an appropriate substitute for the original documents in such an important archive. When there is no complete and definitive set in any one place, the need to have originals in order to authenticate the copies becomes of overwhelming importance.

Recently there has been an increasing tendency to reassess the political basis of history, as relevant documents become more accessible. However, such research has occasionally been pursued tendentiously by those who selectively omit material which conflicts with their objectives.

One example concerns the German plans for the invasion of Britain, code-named Operation Sealion. The papers were captured by the Soviets in Berlin (1945). Although copies of them were made available last year, the intelligence reports obtained by the Sicherheitsdienst, the Nazi party security apparatus under Reinhard Heydrich, were not included. This omission hides the fact that in 1940 the most detailed and strategically important military and scientific intelligence regarding Britain was being supplied by the Soviet NKVD to that organisation. German military intelligence, the Abwehr, was in this respect much less effective.

There are in Britain archives which are incomplete, where no definitive record exists in any one place. It is then necessary to retain every original document, thereby to reduce the possibility that papers might be removed from other more complete collections, or inserted where there are gaps in other sets.

The notion that archives are held in trust for the nation does not seem to be one to which all British institutions subscribe. Irreplaceable documents are sometimes sold or incinerated before they can be studied properly.

Many institutions, in my view, do not regard the storage, conservation and accessibility of their archives an important or even a necessary obligation. It is an expense to which the Government, I believe, makes no direct contribution, but it may come to rue the day it failed to protect the papers on which history is based.

Yours faithfully,
J. DREWE,
The Little Barn,
Warninglid, Sussex.
December 23.

Threat to air cadets

From Mr J. C. J. Farrell

Sir, The targeting of the Royal Air Force by the Treasury for massive defence cuts is having a serious knock-on effect for the 45,000 air cadets in this country. Plans to replace the ageing Chipmunk with a modern economical aircraft to provide air experience for our boys and girls were cancelled because of lack of funds. Although some flying will still be available, it will be at a much reduced rate.

A replacement gliding site at Boxley in Kent to give gliding experience to our cadets was cancelled for the same reason, with the result that the prolific gliding school nearby, at West Malling, has closed, as scheduled, and now has no permanent home.

Opportunities for week-long visits to RAF stations have been reduced from 24,000 places to 18,000 over the past three years and support for our 1,000 squadrons has been significantly reduced due to closure of RAF stations. A 20 per cent cut in the Air Training Corps budget has been arbitrarily imposed, and I understand measures to find a further 25 per cent cut are being examined.

Does not the Government realise the importance of providing support and encouragement for our youth to become good citizens of this country, and for our volunteer staff who dedicate their time and effort by taking on the tremendous responsibility for training and welfare of air cadets?

A further cut within the enormity of public and defence spending would be insignificant, but in our organisation would inflict irreparable damage. I feel that many of our boys and girls will soon be kicking their heels on street corners unless the Government comes to its senses.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES C. J. FARRELL,
(Regional Chairman, London and South East, Air Training Corps),
Forge House,
West Street, Faversham, Kent.

Craft cuts

From Mr Raymond C. Jorden

Sir, I was interested in Michael Portillo's statement in your supplement on the National Training Awards (December 14) that . . . "we must have people trained to world-class standards. It is up to employers to lead . . . The role of the Government is to support the employer-led bodies in the field such as TECs [Training and Enterprise Councils] . . . etc."

Perhaps Mr Portillo will explain why the Rural Development Commission — which I understand is part-funded by the various government schemes like TECs etc — has made a decision to cut out all training, both at Salisbury (where in the early 1980s a purpose-built centre was erected for master craftsmen to send their apprentices for specialist training) and at Harrogate.

This sort of training is unequalled for its high standard anywhere in the world, and the action of the RDC deprives craftsmen of their only means of apprenticeship to become, for example, furniture makers, farriers, upholsterers, saddlers, wheelwrights and blacksmiths.

I hope that Mr Portillo will take a look at this sorry saga and see whether he can overturn the RDC's decision, which seems to have been taken on the advice of accountants who have convinced them they can save half a million pounds per annum, regardless of the Government's policy on training.

Yours truly,
RAYMOND C. JORDEN
(Clerk to the Company, The Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths),
27 Cheyne Walk, Grange Park, N21.
December 14.

Network for the blind

From the Secretary General of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness

Sir, Whilst this agency is very appreciative of the attention drawn in Dr Trisha Greenhalgh's excellent article on cataract to a major cause of blindness in all countries ("When there is more than meets the eye", Body and Mind, December 13), I would like to correct the impression given that we are engaged in the delivery of eye care.

IAPB exists to promote a co-ordinated, global campaign against all forms of avoidable blindness and is in official relations with the WHO through the latter's programme for prevention of blindness.

The international network of non-government organisations is one of IAPB's principal members and works with governments and national partners across the world to deliver the range of strategies referred to in the article. By way of example, the British charity, Sight Savers International, is a leading member of that network.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN JOHNS,
Secretary General,
International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness,
Grosvenor Hall, Bolnore Road,
Haywards Heath, West Sussex.

Focus on Cyprus

From the High Commissioner for Cyprus

Sir, Your "Focus" on what is misleadingly termed "Northern Cyprus" (December 21) offers your readers a distorted account of the Cyprus problem. Its underlying thesis in defence of "ethnic cleansing" cannot go unchallenged.

The "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" is the consequence of an invasion and a continuous illegal occupation of part of the internationally recognised Republic of Cyprus. This is reflected in numerous UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions.

The entire international community has repeatedly called for the withdrawal of Turkish troops from Cyprus. The UN Security Council, most recently in resolution 939, declares the status quo to be unacceptable and insists upon a federal settlement based on a single sovereignty and international personality.

As the UN Secretary General concluded in his report to the Security Council of May 30, 1994, progress towards a federal settlement has been systematically obstructed by both Mr Rauf Denktash, the Turkish-Cypriot leader, and the Turkish Government, due to their lack of political will.

Mr Denktash, in his recent informal meetings with President Glafkos Clerides in Nicosia, scuttled yet another opportunity for progress and refused to allow President Clerides's preparedness to examine imaginative ways to find a way out of the present deadlock.

Regarding the assertion that the Turkish-Cypriot interests are threatened by Cyprus's accession to the EU, paragraph 46 of the Commission's Opinion says that the result would be increased security and prosperity and would help bring the two communities closer together.

The international community as well as individual governments have on many occasions stated that the situation in Cyprus is unacceptable and cannot continue. Only this week the German Foreign Minister, Mr Klaus Kinkel, reaffirmed this position and clarified that "any solution to Cyprus should safeguard the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and unity of the Republic of Cyprus, in accordance with relevant UN resolutions".

I cannot, therefore, help but question the credibility one should give to the propagandist utterances of your correspondent.

Yours faithfully,
ANGELOS M. ANGELIDES,
Cyprus High Commission,
93 Park Street, W1.
December 21.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Benefits of NHS fundholding

From the President of the National Association of Fundholding Practices

Sir, I would point out to Professor Harry Keen (letter, December 19) that if fundholding GPs give better services to patients, as stated by the National Audit Office, it follows, by definition, that non-fundholders do not.

There is a sea change taking place in hospitals with the diminishing need for acute beds and the increasing shift to care in the community where patients are looked after by the GP and the community team.

These teams are increasingly based in centres and premises owned or leased by GPs and use equipment provided by them. Professor Keen criticises fundholders for making savings used to provide the "enhancement of practice properties". Is this depriving our patients?

The best use of NHS money towards improved health is in fundholding practices, which are increasingly working with the new health authorities to improve services for the whole community.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID TOD,
President, National Association of Fundholding Practices,
Lettsom House, 11 Chandos Street,
Cavendish Square, W1.
December 19.

From Dr Roger Gardiner

Sir, Professor Keen considers that the finding that fundholding GPs have made savings is due either to overgenerous budgets, causing other patients to have inferior care, or to providing less care to their own patients.

I have been fundholding since April 1994 and my allocation of funds has been far from generous, yet I have been able to increase the services provided to my patients in two ways, first by more efficient use of resources and secondly by the poor quality of the financial control in local hospitals.

The latter is by far the greater of these elements, indeed for the first half of this financial year our budget was £156,000, we paid invoices totalling £149,000 and were not charged for services totalling £40,000.

Given these figures you will not be surprised to learn that we have reduced waiting lists and expect to make a significant saving at the year end.

I quite agree with Professor Keen that the result of fundholding is a two-tier system, the main reason for this being poor credit control by the hospitals. However, my role is to obtain the best care I can for my patients and if the system has created two tiers I intend being on the top.

Yours sincerely,
ROGER GARDINER,
Belle Vue Medical Practice,
271 Rayleigh Road,
Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex.
December 19.

Listed house

From the Director of the Council for British Archaeology

Sir, The Secretary of State for Wales's acquiescence, without an inquiry, to the demolition of 6 Palace Street, Caernarvon, a grade II listed building in a World Heritage Site (letter, December 22), is astonishing.

On June 9 this council wrote to the chief planning officer of Arfon Borough Council, reminding the local authority (among other things) that the building stands within such a site.

In September the Government published Planning Policy Guidance Note 15, "Planning and the Historic Environment". This reminds us that World Heritage designations

highlight the outstanding international importance of the site as a key material consideration to be taken into account by local authorities in determining . . . listed building consent applications, and by the Secretary of State in determining cases on appeal or following call-in.

PPG15 urges local authorities to "place great weight" on the need to protect such areas "for the benefit of future generations as well as our own".

Thus far PPG15 is restricted to England. I hope the Welsh Secretary is not asking anyone to accept that his Government's standards of conservation policy should differ from one part of the UK to another.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD MORRIS,
Director,
Council for British Archaeology,
Bowes Morrell House,
111 Walmgate, York.
December 22.

Sign language

From Mr W. H. Thomas

Sir, The border between Scotland and England on the A68 is at Carter Bar. There, driving south, a sign says "England". Next to it is another sign, warning drivers, in five languages, to drive on the left.

Are the Scots planning to change to driving on the right? If not, why is there no matching sign on the Scots' side to remind motorists from England?

I think we should be told.

Yours etc,
W. H. THOMAS,
Smithy Paddock, Croxton Road,
Fulmodeston, Fakenham, Norfolk.
December 27.

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
NORFOLK

December 27: The Hon Mary Morrison has succeeded the Lady Susan Hussey as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

Birthdays today

Air Commodore Molly Allott, former director, WRAF, 76; Mr Terry Butcher, footballer, 36; Mr W.A. Camps, former Master, Pembroke College, Cambridge, 84; Mr D.B. Carr, cricketer, 68; Major Madeleine Craggs, secretary, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, 49; Sir Andrew Maitland-Makgill-Crichton, former vice-chairman, Port of London Authority, 84; Mr T.W. Gould, VC, 80; Mr Max Hastings, editor-in-chief, *The Daily Telegraph*, 49; Mr Roy Hattersley, MP, 62; Professor F.P. Kelly, statistician, 44; Mr Nigel Kennedy, violinist, 38; Mr Martin Llowarch, chairman, Transport Development Group, 59; Mr Michael Marland, educationist, 60; Mrs Frances Morrell, former leader, ILEA, 57; Sir Patrick O'Connor, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 80; Mrs Bridget Prentice, MP, 42; Mr Simon Raven, author and dramatist, 67; Professor E.J. Richards, aeronautical engineer, 80; Mrs Joan Ruddock, MP, 51; Dame Maggie Smith, actress, 60; Mr Denzel Washington, actor, 40; the Right Rev W.J. Westwood, Bishop of Peterborough, 69; the Hon Geoffrey Wilson, former chairman, Delta Group, 65; the Marquess of Zetland, 57.

Forthcoming marriage

Mr J.E. Harpur
and Miss J.J. Beckingsale

The engagement is announced between James Edmund, second son of Mr and Mrs Richard Harpur of Burton Latimer, Northamptonshire, and Jessamy, elder daughter of Colonel and Mrs Michael Beckingsale, of Dilton Marsh, Wiltshire.

Marriage

Mr T.F. Tremlett
and Mrs V.P. Graham

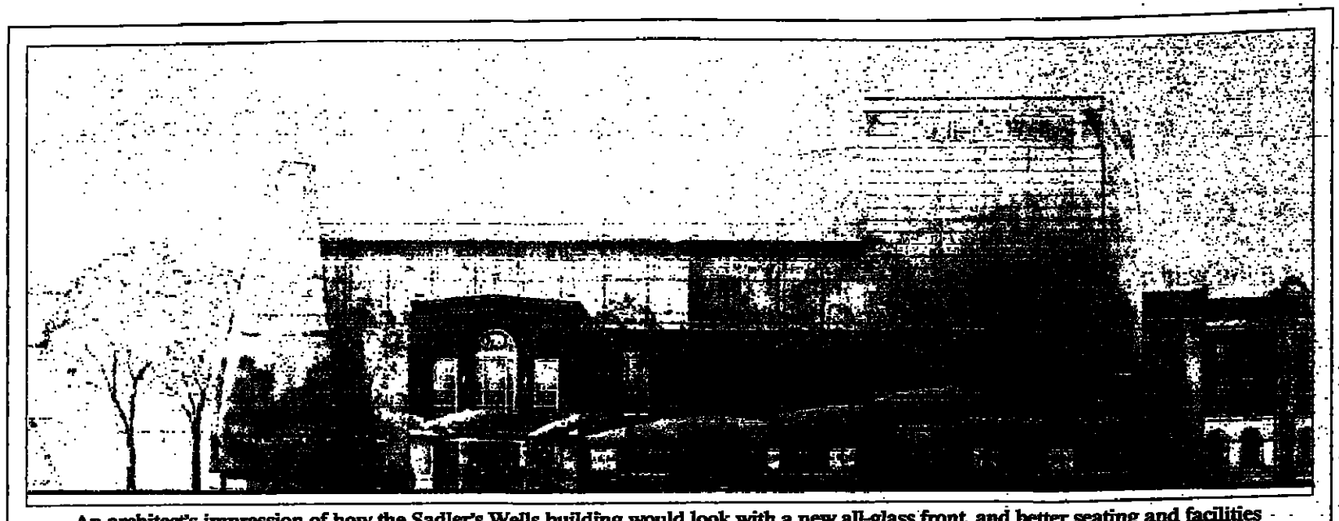
The marriage took place quietly in London, on Wednesday December 21, of Mr Tom Tremlett to Mrs Vikki Graham (née Stace).

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Alexander Keith Johnston, geographer, Penicuik, 1804; Samuel Phillips, journalist, 1814; Thomas Woodrow Wilson, 28th American President 1913-21, Staunton, Virginia, 1856; Pio Baroja y Nessi, novelist, San Sebastian, Spain, 1872; Sir Arthur Eddington, astronomer, Kendal, Cumbria, 1882.

DEATHS: St Francis de Sales, doctor of the church, 1622; Queen Mary II, reigned with King William III 1689-94, London, 1694; Pierre Bayle, philosopher, 1706; Thomas Babington Macaulay, 1st Baron Macaulay, poet, historian and statesman, London, 1859; George Gissing, novelist, St Jean de Luz, France, 1903; Maurice Ravel, composer, Paris, 1937; Theodore Dreiser, novelist, Hollywood, 1945; Victor Emmanuel, King of Italy 1900-46, Egypt, 1947; Jack Lovelock, surgeon, Olympic 1500m gold medallist 1936, killed in an accident, New York, 1949; Paul Hindemith, composer, Frankfurt am Main, 1963.

The Tay Bridge collapsed into the river below, 1879.



An architect's impression of how the Sadler's Wells building would look with a new all-glass front, and better seating and facilities

Transformation scene would put new life into Sadler's Wells

By Marcus Binney

SADLER'S Wells will become one of the brightest sights in London's theatreland under plans to be placed before the Arts Council's lottery fund in the New Year.

The scheme will transform the theatre into a venue capable of taking international touring ballet productions and provide the theatre with some of the most generous foyer space in London.

A spokesman said: "In recent years Sadler's Wells has declined. But English National Opera, the Royal Ballet and the Birmingham Royal Ballet all started here. They left because our stage, its flytower, and the back and front of house facilities were inadequate. The new proposals will ensure that we become the London centre for dance and ballet and part of the touring circuit that now includes the Birmingham Hippodrome and Edinburgh's New Festival Theatre. International touring companies not seen in London at present will be able to come to the capital."

Barry Pritchard, a partner at the architects Renton Howard Wood Levin, said: "The new all-glass front of the theatre will make it a beacon on Rosebery Avenue, eye-catching by day and night. By extending out over the large triangle of pavement in front of the theatre we can greatly increase facilities for the audience. There will be much improved sightlines in the auditorium with a steeper rake in both the stalls and the circles. Rows of seats on the flanks will paper the sides with faces, increasing the sense of intimacy".

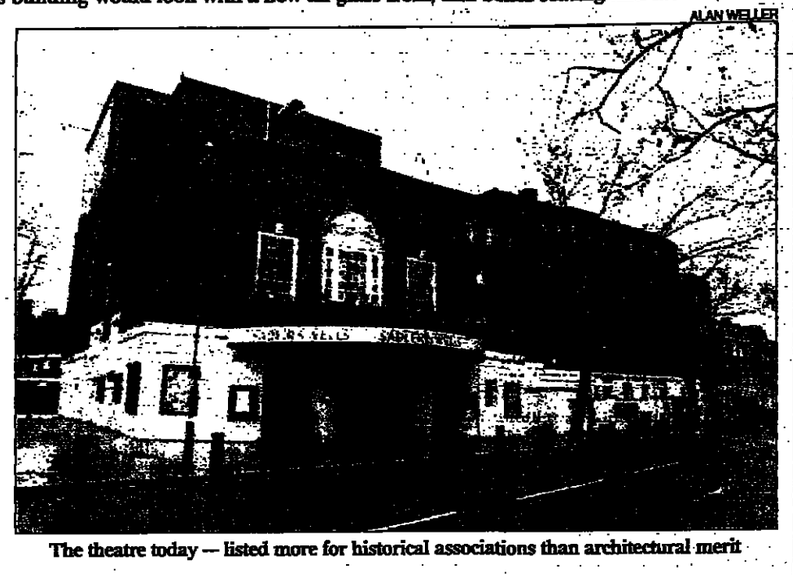
John Earl, director of the Theatres Trust, says: "We strongly support these proposals and are delighted to see a full 25 metre high flytower which is essential for touring productions". The design of the flytower has presented problems as the layout of the theatre means it cannot be set back but must be placed on Rosebery Avenue. Mr Pritchard says: "It will be clad in pewter coloured metal with the name Sadler's Wells emblazoned on the sides in large letters at the request of the planners. It will be seen from the Angel, Islington".

Some have suggested that Sadler's Wells should build a new theatre rather than remodel a 1920s building which is listed more for its historical associations than for architectural merit. Mr Pritchard explains: "The existing site is very constricted with no room for proper side stages. A new building would have triggered a move to a new location, probably on the South Bank and many people did not want to lose the association with Islington."

Theatre at the Wells dates back to 1683 when Mr Sadler built a wooden music house as an attraction for his spa. This was replaced by a stone-built theatre in 1765.

Graeme Cruickshank, chairman of the Save London's Theatre campaign, says: "The Wells is an important London theatre and we would deplore its loss."

ALAN WELLER



The theatre today — listed more for historical associations than architectural merit

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Rupert Martin, Curate, Church of St Peter, Yateley (Winchester): to be Vicar, Sandal Magna St Helen, and in charge of St Paul Walton (Wakefield)

The Rev Jennifer Morrell, Associate Priest, Church of the Transfiguration, Birchwood: to be Team Vicar, St Martin's, Kirkby (Liverpool)

The Rev Irene Page, Parish Deacon, St John w St Andrew, Waterloo: to be Rector, St Thomas, Old Charlton (Southwark)

The Rev Angela Pavey, Assistant Curate, Fishtoft, and part-time Chaplain at Boston Further Education College: to be *also* Diocesan Director of Ordinands (Lincoln)

The Rev Christopher Pearson, Assistant Curate, St Mary, Newington: to be Assistant Curate, St Peter, Streatham (Southwark)

The Rev Eileen Routh: now Vicar, Woodnesborough w Worth and Staple (Canterbury)

The Rev Terence Steele, Vicar, Cowbit, Weston, Weston Hills and Moulton: to be Priest-in-charge, Burgh le Marsh group of parishes (Lincoln)

The Rev Marcus Wakely, Curate, Worksop Priory (Southwell): to be Vicar, St Matthew's, Carver Street, Sheffield (Sheffield)

The Rev John Walker, Anglican Chaplain, St Andrew's church, Ascuncion, Paraguay: to be Vicar, Calverley (Bradford)

The Rev Donald Witts, Bolton Churches Officer for Economic and Social Affairs (Manchester): to be Priest-in-charge, Blean, and Diocesan Communications Officer (Canterbury)

Resignations and retirements

The Rev Jeffrey Burditt, Vicar, Hatfield Peverel w Ulting (Chelmsford): to resign as from January 31

The Rev Michael Randolph, LNSM, Biddenden and Smarden (Canterbury): to retire as from January 2, and with permission to officiate in the West Charing deanery, same diocese

The Rev Dr John Sweet, Fellow and Dean of Chapel of Selwyn College, Cambridge (Ely) and Prebendary of Chichester Cathedral: retired as Dean of Chapel of Selwyn College, Cambridge as from September 30. He retains his prebendal stall of Chichester Cathedral

The Rev Canon Michael Wright, Vicar, Wath upon Dearne w Adwick upon Dearne (Sheffield): to retire as from June 30

University news

Reading

Research grants and contracts include:

Dr M G B Drew (Chemistry), £154,412 from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council - experimental and computer modelling study of the water-structuring properties of carbohydrates

Dr R A Rastall (Food Science and Technology), £117,988 from the BBSRC - enzymatic synthesis of analogues and derivatives of trehalose and sucrose.

Dr J W Abraham (Sociology), £85,420 from the Economic and Social Research Council - the interaction between European Drug Regulation and toxicological science.

Professor R Burch (Chemistry), £10,6040 from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council - novel catalysts for the selective reduction of nitrogen oxides

Professor R Burch (Chemistry) £113,390 from the EPSRC - preparation of mixed oxide catalysts by molecular design

Dr D M Hodgson (Chemistry), £84,328 from the EPSRC - new enantio-selective desymmetrisation methodology

Professor R Burch (Chemistry), £107,480 from the EPSRC - fundamental aspects of catalysts for clean combustion

Mr G K Cook and Mr K T Bright (Construction Management & Engineering), £111,199 from the EPSRC - emergency lighting, escape route lighting and way-finding provision for the visually impaired

Mr S D Green (Construction Management & Engineering), £53,360 from the EPSRC - group decision support for value management

Professor K Warwick and Dr P M Sharkey (Cybernetics), £246,387 from the EPSRC - reliability of food packaging machinery

Dr R Cywinski (Physics), £105,903 from the EPSRC - correlations, transitions and dynamics in random anisotropy magnets

Dr D J Evans, Dr J McKeating and Professor J W Almond (School of Animal and Microbial Sciences), £37,640 from the Medical Research Council - provision of a facscan flow cytometer facility at the university

Professor P W H Holland (School of Animal and Microbial Sciences), £58,800 from the MRC - analysis in lower chordates

Dr D Mason and Dr G Robinson (Geography), £105,338 from the NERC - determination, change detection and validation of a digital elevation model of the coastal zone

Professor P J Roach (Linguistic Science), £123,100 from the ESRC - emotion in speech: a corpus-based study

Professor P T Smith (Psychology), £95,890 from the ESRC - prospective memory, anxiety and age

Dr R Walsh (Chemistry), £62,749 from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council - isotope effects in gas phase silyene reactions

Dr J A D W Anderson and Mr G D Sullivan (Computer Science), £173,531 from the EPSRC - CAD (vision compilation)

Professor A O'Neill and Dr L Steenman-Clark (Meteorology), £74,045 from the EPSRC - UK Universities Global Atmospheric Modelling Programme

Professor K Warwick (Cybernetics), £59,999 from the EPSRC/DTI - Teaching Company Centre

Dr J McKeating (School of Animal & Microbial Sciences), £125,492 from the MRC - functional characterisation of primary HIV-1 envelope glycoprotein

Dr A R Webb (Meteorology), £89,273 from the NERC - earth observation research fellowship

Archaeology

When man's best friend became a valued source of protein

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

THE modern hotdog may have been invented in New York a century ago, but 1,500 miles south and 2,000 years earlier the ancient Maya were eating the real thing. Dog remains from the early village site of Cuello indicate that they provided a steady source of meat.

More than 500 bones and teeth, analysed by Dr Juliet Clutton-Brock at the Natural History Museum in London, showed that the dogs were killed when they were about a year old, after the first growth spurt and before they became old and tough, or used up more food than they were worth.

An absence of unfused bone ends showed that puppies were not eaten, but the unworn nature of the teeth, which are all present by five months of age, proved that the dogs did not live much longer.

A lack of healed breaks "also suggests that the animals did not live long enough to suffer the normal vicissitudes of canine existence," Dr Clutton-Brock said.

The earliest remains come from the early first millennium BC, and dogs seem to have been a standard source of protein for centuries thereafter. Deer were the main animals eaten, and were hunted in the forest, but dogs were the only domesticated and therefore controlled source of meat.

The Maya animals were about the size of a terrier, and would have yielded a fair quantity of flesh. Lack of burning suggests that the dogs were not roasted whole, but boiled or stewed. Cut marks on some bones showed where flesh had been removed, and many bones were crushed, perhaps to extract marrow.

Although early travellers observed "that the Indians ate these dogs as the Spaniards do rabbits: those intended for this purpose were castrated in order to fatten them", there is insufficient comparative data from modern castrated dogs to determine whether this affected skeletal morphology. Stable-isotope analysis has shown, however, that the dogs probably ate household scraps and were not fed a special diet, unlike the corn-fed Aztec dogs.

Dog meat was a valued food, however: "in a society where hunting was the major means of acquiring protein, the availability of domesticated dogs requiring low energy expenditure to breed, feed and slaughter, formed a usefully reliable counterbalance to the vagaries of the chase", the report says.

Source: *Journal of Archaeological Science* 21:819-826.

Rare grave markers found in wall

A BAKER'S dozen of rare medieval grave markers has been discovered built into the walls of a 16th-century house in Kent (Norman Hammond writes). The finds were made as the building, which stands near the Channel Tunnel portal, was being dismantled for re-erection at a museum.

"Longport House is a complex structure," Bob Powell, curator of the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum in Sussex, said. "Its walls are made of brick, timber frame with wattle-and-daub infill, and stone. The grave markers have been found among the stone, 11 during dismantling in Kent and now two more during rebuilding at Singleton."

The markers were originally about 2ft high, with rounded heads containing a simple incised cross. They date to the 12th-century, and only 66 are known in Kent, most of them near Folkestone.

The place of the markers in the building will be taken by tile filling, Mr Powell said. The markers themselves will be conserved and the best examples displayed inside the completed building, which is to be the new offices and shop at the museum.

Western Isles get a new arts centre

By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland Correspondent

THE remote and largely unspoiled Western Isles have become home to a growing community of artists. For the last five years those living in the Uists have exhibited their work on Benbecula, to the delight of visitors unaware of the high standards of the artistic community.

In 1992 the Uist Art Association decided that the community needed a permanent centre which would reflect the lively arts scene on the islands. North Uist was chosen as the most sensible place for a venue but the artists soon realised that, in their search for a building, they would be competing with the North Uist Historical Society which was looking for a museum site.

Instead of pitching against each other, the two groups joined together to produce an innovative project, under the umbrella of the Taigh Chearsabagh Trust, which combined the creative talents of local artists with island culture and tradition.

The strength of the joint proposal meant that the team secured a 75-year lease from the North Uist Estate for a derelict B-listed building in Lochmaddy. The building, which was built in 1741, was almost uninhabitable.

Around £265,000 was raised for refurbishment, with Western Isles Enterprise, the EU LEADER fund, development trusts and fundraising by the local community all playing a part. A shop and café will generate income and the first six months' programme will be funded by the Scottish Arts Council, the Scottish Museums Council and the Gulbenkian Foundation.

Helen McDonald, of the Uist Art Association, says this funding means that, when the centre opens in March, professional classes on textile techniques will be on offer.

There are two main spaces in the building, a studio gallery area where the 30 or so local artists will be able to exhibit, and a museum which will devote its first exhibition to the history of Lochmaddy. The local community of 2,000 on North Uist has embraced the project enthusiastically, and Miss McDonald says that the centre will provide a focus for the six arts students from the island who are currently studying on the mainland.

THE TIMES COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE AWARDS

The Taigh Chearsabagh Trust is one of three winners in the Community Buildings category of the 1994 Community Enterprise Awards, sponsored by *The Times* and Touche Ross and organised by Business in the Community. One of the winners, Mickleton Village Hall, North Yorkshire, was described in *The Times* on September 5, and a report on the third, the Woodcote Area Schoolhouse Project, will appear shortly. The awards will be presented by the Prince of Wales in Manchester on February 8.

Latest wills

Recent estates include (net before tax):

Mr Ronald Henry **French**, of Dane Hill, East Sussex £1,117,888

Mrs Lily **Gardner** of Bewdley, Worcestershire £629,126

Mrs Barbara Molly **Holloway**, of Barton Mills, Suffolk £567,760

Mr Harry Dixon **Cheetham**, of Dartford, Kent £828,309

Margaret **Brodie**, of North Shields, Tyne and Wear £635,715

Mrs Gladys May **Carpenter**, of Luton Bedfordshire £1,196,473

Mr Robert Howard **Ellis**, of Horsham, West Sussex £1,045,159

Mr Cecil Howard **Everett**, of Milford on Sea, Hampshire £1,489,318

Mrs Kathleen Marjorie Alexandra **Fuller**, of Highgate, London N6 ..... £756,866

Mr Rouben Haim **Hawa**, of Winchester £897,145

Miss Gladys Mary **Isher**, of Newbury, Berkshire. £614,324

Mr Harold Green **Marshall**, of Halifax, West Yorkshire £1,521,282

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This gospel God announced beforehand in sacred scriptures through his prophets. It is about his Son. Romans 1 : 2,3 (REB)

DEATHS

BROWNE - On December 23rd Colonel Ernest Calgary Browne OBE, peacefully at home aged 90 years. Dearly loved husband of Margaret and the late Victoria. Beloved father of John and Gillian and loving step-father of Diane and Victoria. Funeral Thursday December 29th at 2 pm at St Peter's Freshford, near Bath. Donations to Cancer Research rather that flowers.

HUMPHREYS - Owen on December 21st 1994, Elizabeth Mary late of Goring on Thames and Kensington. Cremation Private.

KAO - Rev. Peter. Passed away peacefully on Sunday 18th December. Beloved father of John, James, Philip, Elizabeth and grandfather. Funeral service to be held at St. Michael Paternoster Royal, college Hill, London at 1.30pm on 30th December. No flowers but send donations to The Missions' to Seamen to support the continuing work of The Missions' to Seamen and of the Bishop R.O. Hall Chinese Association

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We would advise readers and advertisers to exercise caution when giving out personal details. This will be respected by genuine respondents.

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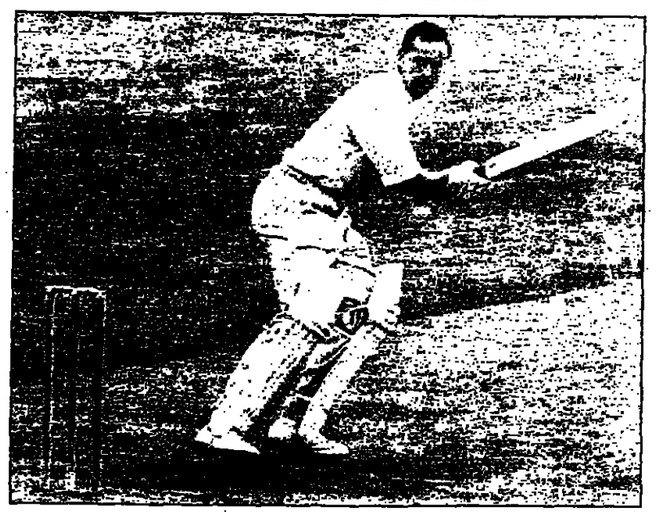
OBITUARIES

PETER MAY

Peter May, CBE, England cricket captain, 1955-61, and chairman of the England Cricket Selection Committee, 1982-88, died yesterday aged 64. He was born on December 31, 1929.



A BRILLIANT batsman for Surrey and England, displaying immense talent from his days as a schoolboy at Charterhouse until an early retirement from first-class cricket, May was also one of his country's most successful captains. To all intents and purposes he gave up the game at the age of 32, by when he had captained England 41 times and scored 27,592 first-class runs at an average of 51. In his remarkably short Test career he amassed 4,537 runs at an average of 46.77.

Few players have hit a cricket ball much harder than May, at any rate off the back foot. His particular glory was the force wide of mid-on, a stroke which most batsmen find the hardest of all to play; but he was also a lovely cutter, and to field in the covers when he was in full flow could be a painful and perilous business. For four or five years in the 1950s, if May failed to make a good score, so too did England, a fact which took a heavy toll of his reserves.

Peter Barker Howard May was born at Reading. Although there was no hereditary reason why he should have excelled at games, he soon did so. Had the headmaster not discouraged it he would have got into the Charterhouse side when he was 13. Only a year later he made a hundred against Harrow with an ease and skill which told the cricket world that George Geary, the school professional, had in his care a Test batsman of the future.

After two years of National Service May went to Pembroke College, Cambridge. As an undergraduate he made many runs on the Fenners pitch and he also captained the University at Association Football. In his second year as an undergraduate he scored nine hundreds. These included four for Cambridge, three for Surrey, one for the Gentlemen against the Players, and another in his first Test innings, against South Africa.

He went one better with ten hundreds in his third and last year of residence, when Cambridge had four Test players in their side — May, David Sheppard, J. J. Warr and the South African, Cuan McCarthy. Oddly enough May failed in each of his three University matches, his best score in five innings against Oxford being only 39.

For six years after coming down from Cambridge, until his health deteriorated, he was England's most commanding batsman. Hutton and Compton were on the way out; Cowdrey never quite threw off his inhibitions; Graveney had a way of failing at moments of great crisis; and Dexter had yet to make his mark. Yet May, on all kinds of pitches, played his natural game. He was always determined upon that, whether Australia were threatening to get on top at Adelaide or the ball was turning at the Oval.

When a back injury forced Hutton to give up the England captaincy in 1955, May took it over. Only A. P. F. Chapman, against Australia in 1926, had led England at a younger age, and May's experience of captaincy was negligible. He had never captained Cambridge at cricket, and not for another two years did he take over from Stuart Surridge at the Oval. In the event, he proved an unyielding if not imaginative leader. His own great ability won the admiration of his players. So, too, did his firmness of purpose. For three or four years he led a fine side.

Between 1955 and 1958 in fact, Australia, South Africa, West Indies and New Zealand were all beaten, and it was no coincidence that England's decline after that coincided with May's gradual withdrawal from the scene.

May's highest innings was one of 285 not out for England against West Indies at Edgbaston in 1957. By mastering "Sonny" Ramadhin, in a partnership of 411, May and Cowdrey turned the course of Anglo-West Indian Test cricket at that time. There were 12 other Test hundreds and 85 altogether.

As a fielder May was steady but not spectacular, and he never bowled. His genius was confined to his batting. At the wicket he was tall and upright, with the blade of the bat noticeably shut in his stance. There was nothing in his rather stiff-legged walk to the middle, or in his manner when he got there, which announced his standing among the cricketers of the world. The quality emerged only when he began to play.

Off the field he conveyed the same impression of diffidence, stiffened by an innate determination. Although frequently petitioned to do so by succeeding England captains, he never played again once he had made up his mind upon an early retirement. In this he was hastened by a sensitivity towards press criticism and the counsels of his wife, and increasingly he was feeling the pressures of big cricket.

He turned his attentions to Lloyds, where he was to become a director of Willis, Faber and Dumas, and to his family, which consisted of four horse-loving daughters. Once he was established in the City he returned to play a leading part in the administration of cricket.

A Test selector from 1965 until 1968, he was later given a four-year term as chairman of selectors from 1982. After England had regained the Ashes in 1985 he was persuaded to accept a second four-year term in the chair, but with a year of that still to run he stepped down, England having just gone for 19 Test Matches with but a single victory, and that included matches against Sri Lanka. If it was true that in 1988, May's last year as chairman, there had seemed to be no really coherent selectorial policy, it was also a fact that Englishmen, both bowlers and batsmen, with the technique and discipline for Test cricket were at that time few and far between.

May was appointed CBE in 1981 for services to cricket. He was President of MCC in 1980-81, and always took a keen interest in the affairs of his old county, Surrey, whose vice-president he was (he had ben due to take over as president this year). Latterly he had suffered from a brain tumour.

He is survived by his wife Virginia and four daughters.

PROFESSOR KARL SCHILLER

Professor Karl Schiller, Minister of Economics, 1966-71, and Minister of Economics and Finance, 1971-72, of the Federal Republic of Germany, died in Hamburg on December 26 aged 83. He was born on April 24, 1911.

ADMITTED even by his opponents (who were never in short supply) to be a financial genius, Karl Schiller was the architect of the policies which kept the federal German economy stable and growing in the period after the initial thrust of the postwar *Wirtschaftswunder* (Economic Miracle) of Ludwig Erhard had subsided. As, first, economics minister and then "super minister", in charge of both finance and economics, in a period of CDU/SPD and then SPD/FDP coalitions, he helped steady the ship when West Germany began to experience its first recession, in the late 1960s.

Although an advocate of free market policies, as economics minister Schiller stopped well short of *laissez-faire*. He was no enemy of public support (at both *Land* and federal level) and it was his belief in "concerted action", a partnership between industry, trade unions and government that enabled many of the older industries to achieve rational scaling down and full or partial privatisation without the fierce social convulsions that marked these processes in Britain over the same period.

As, additionally, finance minister he did not hesitate to invoke harsh fiscal discipline when necessary. His increases on petrol duty were never popular. On the EC front he is credited with having taken the step which swung the scales in favour of Britain's application for entry, when his decision to float the Deutsche Mark so alarmed the French that they suddenly became much more amenable to the idea.

Karl Schiller was born in Breslau, then capital of German Silesia, now Wroclaw, Poland. He went to Kiel, Frankfurt, Berlin and Heidelberg universities and from 1935 to 1939 he was in charge of the research group at the Institute for World Economics at Kiel.

During the Second World War he served in the German Army, returning to Kiel afterwards. He had a year there as a visiting professor before becoming Professor of Politics and Economics at Hamburg University in 1947. He was to hold this chair until 1972.

At the same time he was becoming involved in postwar German politics, from 1948 as a senator for economics and transport in Hamburg in the months before the foundation of the federal republic. He was soon a prominent member of the Sozialdemokratische Partei Deutschlands (Social Democrat Party) and was elected to the Bundestag in 1965. He became Economics Minister in the "Grand Coalition" between the Christian Democrats and Social Democrats which became the Federal Republic's new government under Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger.

A self-assertive man who easily made enemies for his forthright opinions and savage handling of those who were less able to articulate their ideas than he was, Schiller nevertheless set about ensuring that the faint sense of malaise afflicting German industrial expectations at that time did not become something more serious. Getting together heads of industries, trade union chiefs and state government ministers to meet at what he called the "Round Table of Reason" he blew fresh life into the notion of partnership which had been at the heart of West Germany's original economic achievements, through "pump priming" policies of wisdom and flexibility.

Thus regions like the Ruhr, heavily dependent on older industries like coalmining, were helped to shut down obsolete operations, streamline previously inefficient ones and retrain their workforces for new opportunities. And these provisions continued to be effective in such areas long after Schiller had left office, and politics.

In this period Germany's increasing economic strength was further demonstrated to the international community when, after being floated for several months the Deutsche Mark was revalued by almost ten per cent in the autumn of 1969.

Not long after Willy Brandt became Chancellor in 1969, at the head of a decisively centre-left coalition, Schiller added finance to his economics policies and instituted a policy of tight fiscal control. But his tenure of the finance post was not destined to be a long or happy one.

In 1972 he clashed sharply with Karl Klasen, president of the Bundesbank over the issue of foreign exchange controls. Klasen wanted to introduce them; Schiller opposed the notion, insisting that such a policy was one for his ministry, not for the bank. At this point his ministerial colleagues withdrew their supprt from him and he resigned in dudgeon. A short time afterwards he also left the SPD.

It was the end of his political career but he continued active as an economic adviser and writer. For the year 1977-78 he was director of economics to the right-wing publisher Axel Springer and he advised on economic policy to the governments of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. He was also a member of the Ford European Advisory Council.

Kurt Schiller was married four times; he is survived by his fourth wife, Vera, and four children.

LORD CAMPBELL OF ESKAN

Lord Campbell of Eskan, chairman of Booker McConnell, 1952-66, died on December 26 aged 82. He was born on August 8, 1912.

"JOCK" CAMPBELL was the most notable socialist businessman of his day. Lacking entirely the showman's gifts of, say, Sidney Bernstein, he nonetheless — at least in the latter part of his life — worked quietly and persistently for progressive causes. For 13 years, 1964-77, he was chairman of the active board of the *New Statesman*, a post in which he succeded Gerald Gardiner on the latter's appointment as Lord Chancellor in the first Wilson Government; he was an energetic member of the Community Relations Commission, becoming one of its deputy chairmen in 1968; (he also played a leading part in the foundation of the Runnymede Trust); and he was the virtual creator of the New Town of Milton Keynes, serving as chairman of its Development Corporation from 1967 to 1983.

His public life was not without its frustrations. It was no secret that he had hoped to be nominated as chairman of the Commonwealth Development Corporation in 1969: the choice fell instead on the ex-Labour cabinet minister, Anthony Greenwood, whose appointment was promptly revoked by Edward Heath when he became Prime Minister in 1970.

With his lifelong interest in the sugar industry both in Guyana and the West Indies, Campbell also felt deeply about Britain entering the Common Market and threw all his weight against the Labour Party supporting the 1971 Tory application. He was keenly dissappointed when the Wilson Government of 1974 virtually reversed the position the party had taken up in Opposition. But, while seldom speaking in the House of Lords, he remained a loyal Labour Peer — he was never tempted to join the SDP — whose vote could normally be counted upon in any important division.

He first came to political prominence with an article he wrote in *The Observer* during the 1964 election campaign — explaining why he would be voting Labour (an exercise he was to repeat with less visible persuasive effect on the Sunday before the 1992 General Election). Since, when the first article was published, he was still the chairman of the large conglomerate of Booker McConnell, he became a valuable trophy for the Labour Party, still at that time widely suspect in the world of commerce and industry.

But his relations with the Wilson Government — except through his close friendship with the Prime Minister's economic adviser, Thomas Balogh, remained relatively distant. It is arguable that his undoubted talents did not find their fullest scope in such honorific appointments as being made a trustee of Chequers — a post he continued to hold well into the days of Margaret Thatcher's prime ministership.

John Middleton Campbell was the eldest of five children. His Scottish father, Colin Algernon Campbell, was a businessman, and the family firm of Curtis Campbell had made a fortune over the years out of sugar cane plantations in British Guiana. He was brought up in Kent but took frequent holidays in Ireland, where he learnt much of his radicalism from the Irish family servants.

At Eton he had a bad attack of poliomyelitis but recovered to the extent that he not only got through a preliminary round or two at Wimbledon but also earned a golf handicap of scratch. He was a natural games player and an exceedingly difficult man to beat at whatever he played. Equally, as a commuter he could complete *The Times* crossword between the Hildenborough and Sevenoaks stations.

After Exeter College, Oxford, he joined the family firm, going out to British Guiana at the age of 21. He was appalled by what he saw, the labourers on the family estates being treated as little more than "chattels", and determined to mount a reformist crusade from within the company. The Second World War — during which he served at the Colonial Office — interrupted his immediate plans, but afterwards he returned to Booker McConnell, that company having bought up Curtis Campbell in 1939. In 1945 he was made a director of the take-over company and from 1952 was chairman.

By as early as 1947 Campbell was in a position to make felt his liberal views about the board's responsibilities. In British Guiana, for instance, where Bookers then controlled 80 per cent of the local cane sugar industry, Campbell brought about a revolution in moribund management attitudes. He improved housing for sugar workers, introduced pension schemes and sickness benefits, raised salaries vastly, and thus made possible a constructive dialogue between Bookers and Guyanese governments after the country's independence in 1966.

But for all his liberalism, Campbell was first and foremost a businessman, and he determined to diversify in order to avoid the risk of having too much money invested solely in the West Indies. The company already had interests in Trinidad, Zambia and Malawi but under his chairmanship Bookers also went into wholesale distribution in Canada, retailing and wholesale in England and engineering in Scotland. Shopkeeping, rather than sugar, became the mainstay of the group's profits.

In a highly original business move, Bookers also expanded into literature, when, in 1964, it took over a 51 per cent interest in Glidrose Productions which held the copyright on Ian Fleming's novels. Campbell was a great friend of Fleming and had clinched the deal over a round of golf. It proved an extremely lucrative move for Bookers, who were then set to exploit James Bond's vast merchandising possibilities — only two years after "Cubby" Broccoli's first Bond film, *Dr No*. It was only fitting, therefore, that Bookers set up the Booker Prize for literature in 1969.

Campbell was chairman of the Commonwealth Sugar Exporters' Association, 1950-84, and led the Commonwealth sugar-producing industries through all the intricate negotiations which resulted in the Lomé Agreement of 1975, which provided developing countries with preferential access to the European sugar market.

He was created a life peer by Harold Wilson in 1966 (having been knighted by the Macmillan Government in 1957) and the next year, at the age of 55, he retired as chairman of Bookers, though he remained as its president until 1979. Among his other interests, he was also director of LWT, 1967-74, playing a crucial part in John Freeman's appointment as chief executive in 1971.

His first marriage ended in divorce — leading to a lasting breach with his father — and his second wife, Phyllis, whom he married in 1949, died in 1983. He is survived by two sons and two daughters from his first marriage.

ROSSANO BRAZZI

Rossano Brazzi, Italian film star, died in Rome on Christmas Eve aged 78. He was born on September 18, 1916.

With Jean Peters in *Three Coins in the Fountain*

A HANDSOME romantic lead of suave Latin looks, Rossano Brazzi was in his element in the Hollywood hits *Three Coins in the Fountain* (1954), *Summertime* (1955) and *South Pacific* (1958), which made his face familar to cinema audiences outside his native country.

Before that he had been an idol of Italian cinema from the 1940s onwards. But although his Hollywood successes of the 1950s made him one of the best-known Italian actors on the international scene, he never really achieved the superstar status of his compatriots Marcello Mastroianni and Vittorio de Sica.

Born in Bologna, Rossano Brazzi was educated in Florence and embarked on a career as a lawyer in Rome before turning to films just before the Second World War after his parents had been murdered by the Fascists. Though he is credited with having been active in the Italian Resistance throughout the war this did not stop him having a busy career as a film actor during those years and he was employed on titles such as *La Tosca* (1940, Tosca) and *La Gorgona* (1942, The Gorgon).

By the end of the war he was well established as a romantic leading man in Italy, but it was not until 1949 that he made his first Hollywood appearance. This was in MGM's *Little Women*, a somewhat treacly remake of RKO's marvellous 1933 version of Louisa M. Alcott's story, which had been directed by George Cukor. In the 1949 version Brazzi had an insignificant part in which his potential was quite obscured, and he returned to Italy in some frustration.

His next flirtation with Tinseltown was in *The Barefoot Contessa* (1954) an engaging but somewhat muddled yarn about the translation of a Spanish cabaret dancer into a Hollywood star, written and directed by Joseph Mankiewicz. For Brazzi this was a successful, though not spectacular, role. But the unashamed schmaltz of *Three Coins in the Fountain* — three American girls find romance among the ruins and moonlight of Rome — really gave him the part he was looking for.

In the following year, David Lean's *Summertime*, in which he appeared as an apparently (though not actually) caddish Italian opposite Katharine Hepburn's lonely American spinster on holiday in Venice, marked what was perhaps Brazzi's apogee. He was also highly effective in *South Pacific* and appeared continually in international productions for many years thereafter — *The Italian Job* (1969) and *Psychout for Murder* (1970) among English-language titles, together with a string of Italian films. But the very pinnacle of stardom eluded him. Quite recently he had appeared in the highly-publicised television mini-series *The Far Pavilions*.

In 1984 Brazzi made headlines of another sort when he was among 37 people arrested and charged in connection with an investigation into international arms and drug smuggling. But the case against him was later dropped.

He was married to the actress Lydia Bertalini.

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COURT & SOCIAL PAGE

Over the New Year period the following deadlines will apply:-

Notices to appear on Thursday, December 29 should be received in writing by noon on Wednesday, December 28 Notices to appear on Friday, December 30 should be received in writing by 5pm on Wednesday, December 28

Notices to appear on Saturday, December 31; Monday, January 2; Tuesday, January 3 should be received in writing by 12 noon on Thursday, December 29

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BOXING.

THE HEAVY-WEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP.

JOHNSON DECLARED WINNER.

SYDNEY, DEC. 26

Jack Johnson, the American coloured boxer, was today declared winner on points in his fight with Tommy Burns, and thus secured the heavy-weight championship of the world. The fight was stopped by the police in the 14th round. The contest, which was fixed to begin at 11 o'clock this morning, attracted an enormous crowd.

Johnson, as challenger, was the first to step into the ring. He appeared at 10.42, followed by his seconds. He was received with wild cheers. Immediately after Tommy Burns appeared, and was accorded an even more enthusiastic reception. The champion took up his position in the western corner. Johnson walked over and shook hands with Burns, who, noticing that the negro's hands were both covered with bandages, examined them. The challenger returned to his corner, and it was announced that if the police stopped the fight, the referee would immediately give his decision. When Burns stripped, he was seen to be wearing elastic bandages about his elbows. Johnson at once shouted across, "You must take those off," and returned to his corner. Burns did likewise, and did not remove the bandages. It was then announced that Johnson refused to fight unless Burns removed the bandages. The referee stated that the wearing of bandages was not against the rules. At one minute past 11, however, Burns removed the bandages amid scenes of tremendous enthusiasm . . .

The fight opened remarkably; Johnson reached Burns with a sharp upper cut and toppled him over. Burns remained down for eight seconds, but signalled that he was all right. On resuming, Burns went for his opponent's body, but Johnson brought his right to the champion's head, staggering him for the moment. Burns landed Johnson on the chin with great force. He was boxing superbly. Just as the gong went, Johnson caught Burns a stinger on the head.

Standing up for the second round, Johnson sang out, "Come right on," and swung his right, reaching Burns's chin. The latter's ankle gave way and he went down. He was up again immediately, however. Johnson now got to close quarters. He placed his right and left repeatedly, and Burns's left eye began to swell. Johnson was having the best of the fighting. He swung a terrific blow with his left on Burns's stomach. Burns was now doing little, and his mouth was bleeding. The men clinched and the gong went . . .

Thirteenth round.—Johnson kept playing for Burns's injured mouth. Burns was reeling and "groggy," and was saved by the gong going.

At the end of this round, the police consulted together, and it was thought that they would probably stop the fight at the next round. Mr. Macintosh, the referee, consulted Tommy Burns, who declared that he was strong and asked them not to interfere.

Fourteenth round.—Burns retreated round the ring, followed by Johnson, who dropped him with a heavy blow with the right. It was eight seconds before Burns rose. Johnson gave him no quarter, using both right and left without mercy. The police then stopped the fight, and the referee declared Johnson the winner.

The fight is considered as the best ever witnessed in Australia. Both men fought most fairly. Burns scored seldom throughout the contest, but displayed indomitable pluck. Johnson appeared quite fresh at the end. The victory of the negro is regarded as due to his physical advantages, superior knowledge, and unruffled demeanour . . .

ON THIS DAY

December 28 1908

Jack Johnson (1878-1946) was the first black man to hold the world heavyweight boxing title, which in 1915, in Havana, he lost to Jess Willard.

THE TIMES TODAY WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 28 1994

NEWS

Court threat forced Howard to act

■ The decision by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, to refer the cases of the "Guinness Four" to the Court of Appeal, was taken 72 hours after legal proceedings demanding a judicial review were initiated against the Minister.

Mr Howard, who has suffered a series of setbacks in the shape of court rulings that he has exceeded his powers or acted unlawfully or unreasonably, faced the prospect of another judicial review because of his failure to grant the four men leave to appeal for almost two years.....Page 1

Girl, 5, dies after opening presents

■ A girl of five who complained of a headache after opening her Christmas presents died from a strain of meningitis that has left her best friend critically ill. Emma Harris, from Rottingdean, East Sussex, died on Boxing Day..... Page 1

Yeltsin gamble

Staking his political survival on victory in Chechenia, President Yeltsin told the Russian people in a television address that the armed forces will continue their campaign.....Pages 1, 7

Acrobat's death

The circus acrobat who fell to his death in front of hundreds of spectators was killed performing the same "wheel of death" act that crippled his brother 18 months ago.....Page 4

Priests murdered

Four priests were murdered in Algeria in what appears to be a brutal revenge attack by Islamic terrorists after Monday's gunbattle on a hijacked airliner in France..... Pages 1, 8

Airport plan

A proposal to build a giant airport near Abingdon, Oxfordshire, has been submitted to the Department of Transport. The £4.5 billion airport, provisionally called Lox, could open in 2007.... Page 5

Left-wing Blair

Tony Blair has decided to take an aggressively left-wing line on health policy and fight the Tories on hospital and bed closures rather than proposing new radical ideas.....Page 2

Paper war

A battle for the freedom of the press in Serbia has moved from the courts to the streets .... Page 7

Gunman killed

Police marksmen shot dead a "quick draw" gun champion on his doorstep after he brandished a silver handgun, threatened to "blow them away" and fired one or two shots.....Page 3

Honour killings

When a Jordanian teenager shot his handicapped sister in front of their parents for having an illegitimate child, the family ululated in a display of joy — an example of an "honour killing" .....Page 9

Peter May dies

Peter May, England's last amateur captain — a man noted for his thorough professionalism died at the age of 64 .....Page 3

Haitian clampdown

In the aftermath of the worst violence in Port-au-Prince since American troops occupied the Haitian capital in September, United States military police have increased security around the presidential palace..... Page 10

Bargain rush

Bargain hunters were out in force spending so fast that credit card authorisation lines were overloaded. Stores staff were pleading for cash.....Page 3

Republican boost

Australian support for cutting constitutional ties with Britain has surged by 5 per cent in the past three months, according to an opinion poll..... Page 10

Argentina's greetings go astray

■ Falkland Islanders were baffled after Guido di Tella, Argentina's Foreign Minister, was reported in Buenos Aires newspapers to have sent cards to islanders wishing them a merry Christmas. He did telephone the director of Port Stanley radio to wish listeners a happy holiday but no islanders have received their cards .....Page 1

Israeli police arrest a Palestinian on a Bethlehem hillside during a demonstration to stop the expansion of a Jewish settlement. Page 9

BUSINESS

Assurance split: The life assurance industry, whose reputation has sunk via a series of scandals over selling unsuitable products to the public, has split over whether it needs to introduce a code of conduct for business.....Page 36

Confidence blow: An Institute of Directors survey says confidence among company directors has been badly knocked by the upturn in interest rates and the Government's political disaarray over its Budget .....Page 36

Higher pay: Three-quarters of new pay deals are resulting in rises of 3 per cent or more, undermining government ministers' arguments that accelerating earnings growth stems from overtime and bonuses.....Page 33

SPORT

Football: Tottenham Hotspur kept a clean sheet for the third successive game as they drew with Crystal Palace in the FA Carling Premiership.....Page 21

Cricket: Shane Warne continued to be the bogeyman as England ran into trouble again in the second Test against Australia in Melbourne.....Page 19

Rugby union: Dean Richards, the England No 8, scored his 100th try for Leicester as they triumphed over the Barbarians 31-18 at Welford Road.....Page 19

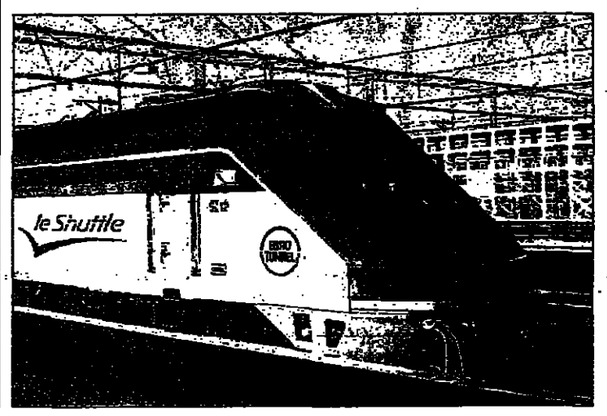
Racing: The Coral Welsh National, had to be abandoned yesterday because of waterlogging on the Chepstow course. It may be transferred to Newbury on Saturday.....Page 25

ARTS

The day I met: "The stories of gross indulgences, the manipulative emotionalism of his music-making, had led me to expect a monster," says Richard Morrison of Leonard Bernstein. "What I found was wisdom, warmth, sincerity" ...Page 26

Buy a ticket: A person would have to be an unreformed Scrooge to resist the charm of *Whistle Down the Wind*, a musical developed for the National Youth Music Theatre from Mary Hayley Bell's novel .....Page 26

Director at work: Louis Malle has always avoided working with big budgets for major studios, while his films have always been bewilderingly eclectic. Now his latest movie, *Vanya on 42nd Street*, comes to Britain.....Page 27



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ EXCLUSIVE
Up to one-third off trips on Le Shuttle to Calais with your car

■ SPORTS QUOTES
The best of who said what about whom, and when, in sport in 1994

Preview: The limitations of scientific evidence, including DNA profiling, are examined in *Equinox Incredible Evidence* (Channel 4, 8.30pm) **Review:** *A Christmas Night with the Stars* was last shown 22 years ago. Lynne Truss decides that the wait was not worthwhile .....Page 35

Moscow to Grozny

Russian democrats rightly fear the growing dominance of the FSK (the renamed KGB) and of the Interior Ministry in Mr Yeltsin's counsels. He appealed for trust yesterday; his handling of this crisis must from now on be such as to warrant it .....Page 15

A level playing field

The A level is too precious an asset to be diluted in the name of educational faid: it is for advocates of modular courses to prove that it is safe in their hands .....Page 15

Eternal plum

Jeeves is quite amazing: age cannot wither him, nor custom stale his infinite sagacity .....Page 15

CHARLES BREMNER

Emotional fears of a tide of Muslim extremism chime with France's sense these days of being under cultural siege .....Page 14

MICHAEL ELLIOTT

I am glad to live in something proud to think of itself as a community ... the real task for the future of democracy is to find non-exclusive forms of self-government — true communities .....Page 14

ALAN COREN

Dear W.H. Smith ... A diary is not for other people's thoughts. So since you have a fancy for the potted sooth, let me offer in answer to your pleas for feedback, this from dear old Chesterton: "Chuck it Smith!" .....Page 14

Peter May, England cricket captain, 1955-61; Professor Karl Schiller, former German Economics Minister; Lord Campbell of Eskan, former chairman of Booker McConnell; Rossano Brazzi, Italian film star.....Page 17

Political history lessons; preserving archives; the benefits of NHS fundholding.....Page 15

Democracy in danger: John Grigg looks at the largely unreported threat to two of the world's great nations and makes some surprising predictions .....Page 11

Sales talk: "Choose quality fabrics and straightforward styling." Iain R. Webb on the sales.....Page 12

Dream home: A house in the country is becoming a likelier prospect for many people as communications improve.....Page 29

Softly, softly: A new soft-rock station in the Midlands is making further inroads into Radio 1 and 2's audiences.....Page 30

Wistful thinking: The disappearance of *Anderson Country*, an extraterrestial for so-called TV science programmes; Brenda Maddox's 1995 wishes.....Page 30

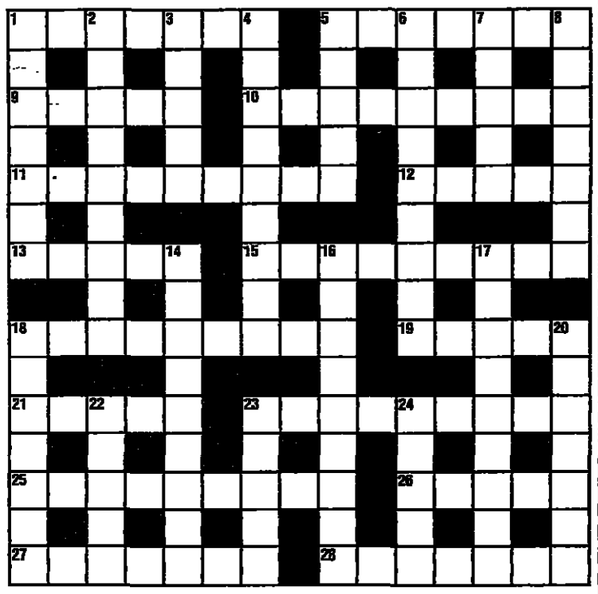
Republicans in Congress are taking dead aim at the Clinton Administration's defence budget. They believe that the Pentagon has provided too little money to get the troops in combat trim.

— The New York Times

The idea that the US Navy might return to Cam Ranh Bay is a reminder that strategic relations in Asia are changing fast

— Wall Street Journal

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,737



ACROSS

1 Cocktail provided for fellow traveller (4-3)
5 Drink and drink again to champion (7)
9 *Trademarks of Stoic philosphy* (5)
10 Update way service is employed initially (9)
11 Tender words? (9)
12 King indisposed — must be the food (5)
13 Language when oil is spilt in City area (5)
15 Sad secret upset philospher (9)
18 Difficult to understand angry talk (4,5)
19 Large animal is halfway through *the circus* (5)
21 Our kind of central heating system (5)
23 Bridge to go over again (9)
25 A characteristic of soldiers returning a compliment (9)
26 Miss March is the first to take the floor (5)
27 Activity which will eventually get you down (7)
28 Continuous supply of jars with *name on back* (7)

DOWN

1 The old law is equal in a curious way (7)
2 Restraint evident among the clergy (3-6)
3 Ascot could be where Eve came from (5)
4 Memo about a surplus (9)
5 Chair requiring support from both parties (5)
6 Soldier has a plan described in a few words (9)
7 Range is short and harbours one antelope (5)
8 It may feature in the training of a gardener (7)
14 Weakness shown by dramatist kept waiting (9)
16 Like the old King's stone work that was never finished (9)
17 Craftsman shaping box, perhaps (9)
18 Man to manage (7)
20 A short distance to dance (3-4)
22 Fruit seen in plot usually bare (5)
23 Uncertainty typical of one in twelve (5)
24 American? To be honest this is true (5)

Times Two Crossword, page 36

Solution to Puzzle No 19,736

H	I	T	H	E	R	T	O	■	P	■	K			
■	N	■	O	■	E	■	F	O	U	R	T	E	E	N
P	U	R	R	■	V	■	F	■	O	■	E	■	E	
■	N	■	S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D	S	P	I	E
■	D	■	E	■	R	■	A	■	U	■	I	■	J	
C	A	C	T	U	S	■	N	O	M	I	N	A	T	E
■	T	■	R	■	A	■	D	■	■	■	G	■	R	
S	E	E	A	B	L	E	■	O	B	E	L	I	S	K
I	■	D	■	■	D	■	E	■	E	■	A			
L	I	T	I	G	A	T	E	■	A	T	H	E	N	S
I	■	N	■	V	■	C	■	T	■	A	■	S		
C	O	N	G	R	E	G	A	T	I	O	N	■	K	
O	■	I	■	R	■	N	■	F	■	D	A	R	T	
N	E	B	R	A	S	K	A	■	I	■	E	■	I	
E	■	S	■	E	■	L	U	C	I	D	I	T	Y	

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc's,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: Hawarden, Clwyd 14C (57F); lowest day max: Tulloch Bridge, Highland 3C (36F); highest rainfall: Aspatria, Cumbria 0.93in, highest sunshine: Southend, Essex 4.6hr

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales overcast with rain or drizzle, and windy. Rain will become heavy and persistent, then clear from the north with showers. The south-east will remain overcast and wet.

Cloudy, wet and windy in Scotland, with snow in the north for a time.

Northern Ireland will be mainly dry at first, with rain spreading from the south followed by clearer conditions with showers. Windy.

☐ **London, SE, Cent S England, E Anglia, E Midlands:** cloudy. Rain or drizzle. Rain becoming heavy for a time later. Winds strong SW. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **W Midlands, Channel Is, SW England, S Wales:** cloudy with rain or drizzle. Rain becoming heavy for a time then clearing from the north. Winds strong SW. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **E, Central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee:** cloudy with outbreaks of rain or drizzle. Brighter around midday but further heavy rain likely before a more general clearance works south in evening. Winds fresh or strong SW. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland:** rather cloudy but mostly dry at first. Thicker cloud and outbreaks of heavy rain spreading from the south during day. Becoming clearer with rain, sleet or hail showers in evening. Winds SW strong, perhaps gale in exposed areas. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** clear intervals at first. Rain preceded by snow spreading from south, becoming milder. Brighter in afternoon; heavy rain later. Winds light, becoming fresh or strong SE then veering SW. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Outlook:** rain in the south-east clearing. Shetland cloudy and wet. Otherwise bright with heavy showers, snow or hail in north. More persistent rain returning to Scotland on Friday.

AROUND BRITAIN

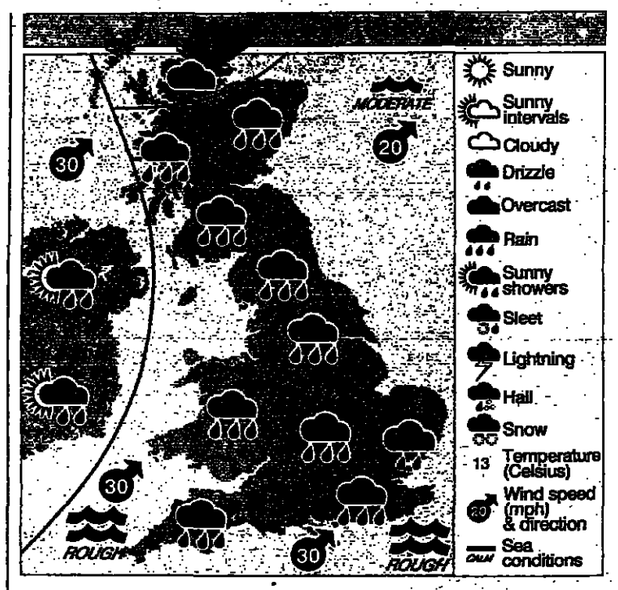
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	X					London	2.0	-	10	50	c
Anglesey	-	0.06	11	52	r	Lowestoft	0.9	0.02	7	45	c
Aspatria	-	0.93	7	45	r	Manchester	-	0.07	7	45	r
Aviemore	-	0.68	2	36	sn	Margate	-	0.15	8	46	c
Belfast	-	0.06	6	43	r	Minehead	0.2	0.18	10	50	r
Birmingham	0.9	0.13	7	45	r	Morecambe	-	0.43	7	45	r
Bognor R	1.8	0.43	10	50	r	Newcastle	1.5	0.08	6	43	r
Bournem'th	1.1	0.65	11	52	sh	Newquay	-	0.03	11	52	r
Bristol	0.9	0.21	9	48	r	Norwich	1.0	0.02	7	45	c
Buxton	-	0.13	5	41	r	Nottingham	0.8	0.01	7	45	r
Cardiff	0.7	0.17	10	50	sh	Oxford	1.1	0.06	9	48	r
Clacton	X					Penzance	1.0	0.31	12	54	sh
Cromer	0.8	-	7	45	c	Plymouth	1.6	0.02	11	52	r
Doncaster	1.6	0.06	7	45	r	Poole	1.1	0.48	10	50	r
Dunbar	X					Prestatyn	X	0.04	11	52	r
Eastbourne	1.1	0.15	11	52	sh	Ross-o-wye	0.4	0.23	9	48	r
Edinburgh	1.5	0.13	6	43	sh	Ryde	X				
Eskdalemuir	0.1	0.37	4	39	sn	Salcombe	X				
Exmouth	0.8	0.21	11	52	r	Sandown	1.1	0.35	11	52	sh
Falmouth	X	0.02	12	54	d	Saunton Snd	0.2	0.02	11	52	sh
Fishguard	-	0.27	10	50	r	Scarboro'	X				
Folkestone	0.7	0.31	9	48	c	Scilly Isles	0.3	-	12	54	c
Glasgow	-	0.32	6	43	r	Shanklin	X	0.33	11	52	h
Guernsey	2.9	0.19	12	54	b	Shrewsbury	-	0.16	8	46	r
Hastings	0.7	0.19	10	50	sh	Skegness	X				
Hayling I.	X					Southend	4.6	0.79	9	48	c
Herne Bay	X					Southport	-	0.43	10	50	r
Hove	X					Southsea	1.7	0.60	11	52	c
Hunstanton	2.0	-	7	45	c	Stornoway	0.4	0.21	3	37	sl
Ilfracombe	X					Swanage	1.5	0.31	12	54	c
Isle of Man	-	0.27	11	52	r	Teignmouth	1.7	0.16	11	52	r
Jersey	2.4	0.17	11	52	sh	Tenby	-	0.40	11	52	r
Kinloss	0.6	-	5	41	sh	Tiree	-	0.23	6	43	sh
Leeds	1.6	0.23	7	45	r	Torquay	2.0	0.28	12	54	b
Lerwick	-	0.32	4	39	h	Tynemouth	1.9	0.03	6	43	c
Leuchars	2.2	0.02	5	41	sh	West-s-mare	X				
Littlehmptn	X					Weymouth	-	0.24	11	52	r
Liverpool	-	0.37	8	46	r	These are Monday's figures					

ABROAD

Ajaccio	13	55	f	C'phagn	5	41	f	Madrid	3	37	s
Alcrotirl	18	64	f	Corfu	14	57	s	Majorca	14	57	s
Alex'dria	19	66	f	Dublin	7	45	r	Malaga	13	55	p
Algiers	-	--		Dubrovnik	11	52	s	Malta	15	59	f
Amst'dm	11	52	r	Faro	11	52	c	Melb'rne	20	68	s
Athens	11	52	f	Florence	6	43	s	Mexico C	18	64	s
Bahrain	17	63	s	Frankfurt	9	48	c	Miami	18	64	s
Bangkok	31	88	s	Funchal	18	64	c	Milan	5	41	f
Barbados	28	82	f	Geneva	5	41	r	Montreal	-2	28	f
Barcelona	9	48	s	Gibraltar	15	59	s	Moscow	-3	27	c
Beirut	19	66	f	Helsinki	1	34	c	Munich	6	46	c
Belgrade	1	34	c	Hong K	20	68	c	Nairobi	-	--	
Berlin	6	43	r	Innsbrck	0	32	c	Naples	11	52	s
Bermuda	23	73	s	Istanbul	8	46	r	N Delhi	23	73	s
Biarritz	13	55	f	Jeddah	31	88	s	N York	8	46	s
Borde'x	12	54	d	Jo'burg	22	72	f	Nice	11	52	f
Brussels	11	52	r	Karachi	-	--		Oslo	2	36	c
Budapst	0	32	c	L Palmas	22	72	f	Paris	11	52	r
B Aires	31	88	s	La Tquist	12	54	f	Peking	4	39	s
Cairo	20	68	s	Lisbon	9	48	s	Perth	25	77	c
Cape Tn	25	77	s	Locarno	2	36	f	Prague	4	39	c
Chicago	7	45	s	L Angels	17	63	s	Reykjavik	-4	25	s
Ch'church	17	63	c	Luxembg	8	46	r	Rhodes	16	61	r
Cologne	10	50	r	Luxor	27	81	s	Rio de J	28	79	f
Riyadh	17	63	s
Rome	11	52	s
Salzburg	4	39	f
S F'risco	9	48	c
Santiago	26	79	s
S Paulo	25	77	c
Seoul	3	37	s
St'kholm	1	34	sl
Strasb'rg	10	50	r
Sydney	30	86	s
Tangier	12	54	c
Tel Aviv	28	79	s
Tenerife	21	70	f
Tokyo	15	59	f
Toronto	6	43	s
Tunis	15	59	c
Valencia	12	54	s
Vanc'ver	9	48	c
Venice	6	43	f
Vienna	0	32	f
Warsaw	2	36	c
Wash'ton	12	54	s
Wel'ngton	18	64	s
Zurich	7	45	f

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to chart below from noon: low E and low W will drift northeast and fill

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	9.04	6.2	9.59	6.3	Liverpool	6.46	8.0	7.11	8.4
Aberdeen	9.16	3.8	9.37	4.0	Lowestoft	4.22	2.4	5.54	2.2
Avonmouth	2.16	10.6	2.58	11.1	Margate	7.18	4.2	8.13	-
Belfast	6.32	3.1	6.59	3.3	Milford Haven	1.35	5.7	2.08	5.9
Cardiff	2.04	10.02	2.39	10.43	Newquay	12.29	5.8	1.01	6.0
Devonport	12.50	4.6	1.23	4.7	Oban	1.27	3.2	2.00	3.4
Dover	5.33	5.8	7.18	5.7	Penzance	12.07	4.6	12.37	4.7
Falmouth	12.20	4.4	12.53	4.5	Portland	1.47	1.8	1.55	1.8
Glasgow	8.29	4.1	8.37	4.5	Portsmouth	6.52	4.3	7.28	4.1
Harwich	6.55	3.5	7.48	3.6	Shoreham	6.45	5.4	7.21	5.3
Holyhead	6.04	4.8	6.29	5.0	Southampton	6.17	4.2	6.48	4.0
Hull	1.18	8.45	2.13	6.40	Swansea	1.37	7.6	2.10	8.1
Ilfracombe	1.12	7.82	1.46	7.89	King's Lynn	1.21	5.7	2.19	5.5
King's Lynn	1.21	5.7	2.19	5.5	Tees	11.38	4.5	--	--
Leith	10.15	4.8	10.45	5.0	Wilton-on-Ntse	7.00	3.7	7.44	3.6

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 8.08 am
Sun sets: 3.58 pm
Moon sets 12.49 pm
Moon rises 3.07 am

London 3.58 pm to 8.08 am
Bristol 4.08 pm to 8.16 am
Edinburgh 3.45 pm to 8.44 am
Manchester 3.55 pm to 8.25 am
Penzance 4.26 pm to 8.21 am

New Moon January 1

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SPORT 19-25
Play the second half of the First XV game

ARTS 26, 27
Crosswords and poetry: the other Leonard Bernstein

HOMES 29
Make sure you've got your sale contract figured

INSURERS AT ODDS OVER SALES
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THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 28 1994

Richards, a try-scorer and always in the thick of the action, sets up yet another maul for Leicester during the annual encounter with the Barbarians at Welford Road yesterday

Leicester joy as Richards joins centurion ranks

Leicester 31
Barbarians 18

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

WHEN opposing prop forwards square up to each other so early in the game, Christmas spirit appears in short supply, even in so well-established a fixture as this. But, when Dean Richards closed Leicester's scoring at Welford Road yesterday with his 100th try for the club, the city was awash with the stuff to salute one of their favourite sons.

If Richards is a talisman for England, he is a monument for his club. Over 12 years, his power, his shambling running, his legendary strength in the maul and uncanny ability to read a game have become core elements in the Leicester success. He shrugs off try-scoring as a pleasant bonus, but only one other forward in the club's history has ever become a centurion. David Matthews scored 119 between 1955 and 1974.

Richards's huge achievement (Rory Underwood, lingers on 99 tries for Leicester) sent a crowd of 14,600 home happy at Leicester's third successive win in the 85-year-old fixture. Yet, save for the odd spasm of continuity from Leicester, it was a low-key game, in many ways akin to an early-season league match.

Gusting drizzle and a soft surface contributed to a morass of mistakes, and the feeling that more serious matters waited round the corner was emphasised by the presence of the England manager, Jack Rowell. Too many of his national squad, which leaves today to train in Lanzarote, were involved for his comfort and the sight of Simon Shaw departing early with the recurrence of an old knee injury was not calculated to ease Rowell's mood. Ricky Evans, a Wales international, suffered a broken nose.

Had the Barbarians possessed more judgment in midfield, they might have scored more tries. For long periods they dominated both territory and possession and Leicester, lacking five of their first-choice squad, offered little of their usual cohesion.

But the home side made up for that with a ready wit on the counter attack. Both their second-half tries had their being in swift transfer of the ball. Back's blond mop constantly involved; you could argue that his personal duel with Eves ended all-square, the strength of the Bristol man countered by Back's superb handling and passing.

Potter scored the first of his two tries from a free kick, taking the lively Hamilton's short pass to burst through a disorganised defence after Callard had opened the Barbarian account with a penalty. Thereafter, Rees launched a stern examination of the home defence with some booming Garryowens which, like the rest of the stand-off half's month, came to nothing.

A delightful Leicester move resulted in a try which might, and perhaps should, have been scored on Underwood's left wing but which eventually fell to Poole on the right. Yet, when Manson-Bishop crossed after Shaw's drive, the Barbarians, only 17-13 down, were well in the hunt. It was not until the final ten minutes that Kilford inspired the move which led to Potter's second try and Richards scored, typically, from a pushover. Logan, the under-used Scottish wing, was allowed the last word.

SCORERS: Leicester: Tries: Potter (2), Poole, Richards. Conversions: Malone (4) Penalty goal: Malone. Barbarians: Tries: Manson-Bishop, Logan. Conversion: Callard. Penalty goals: Callard (2).
LEICESTER: W Kilford; S Hackney, D Edwards, S Potter, R Underwood; N Malone, J Hamilton; G Rowntree, R Cockerill, D Garforth, C Tarbuck, M Poole, T Smith, N Back, D Richards. Hamilton replaced by D Grewcock (63min).
BARBARIANS: J Callard (Bath and England); C Glasgow (Heriot's FP), D Hopley (Wasps), M Taylor (Pontypool and Wales), K Logan (Stirling County and Scotland); G Rees (Oxford University and Canada), R Howley (Bridgend); R Evans (Llanelli and Wales), G Dawe (Bath and England), P Burnell (London Scottish and Scotland), E Peters (Bath), S Shaw (Bristol), A Blackmore (Bristol), D Eves (Bristol), G Manson-Bishop (Newport). Evans replaced by M Linnett (Birmingham/Solihull and England, 40), Shaw replaced by M Thomas (Swansea, 66), Glasgow replaced by A Gomarsall (Wasps, 73).
Referee: E Morrison (Bristol).

Fealey remembered, page 23

Gooch out to first ball of demoralising day for England

Australia prepare to dictate

From Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent
Melbourne

THERE are days in cricket when one team is so infected by fate, so absorbed by inadequacy that they appear to be doing little more than waiting for defeat. This was just such a day for England. The mood was indicated before the start, numbingly confirmed by the first ball and then publicly acknowledged through a long and torpid afternoon.

The potential for an England fightback in this second Test, after the concession of a lead that could and should have been theirs, was soon conceded as Michael Atherton fell back upon defence. There was then only a sense of marking time, limiting the damage, before the ultimate bogeyman, Shane Warne, was released once more.

By the close, Australia's lead was 237, already more than England managed in the first innings and more, on an unreliable pitch, than they could be logically expected to make in the second. Time was also against them, for only three Australian wickets were down and two days remained.

Mark Taylor can judge his moment, assess just when the widening and shifting cracks at Warne's end have deteriorated sufficiently to make life practically impossible. For the visitors' dressing-room, these were wearyingly familiar thoughts in a Test match that had begun with such refreshing signs of revival.

Events have not been kind to England. Sometimes, in recent days and weeks, they have been downright cruel. But the truth cannot shelter behind ill-fortune with injuries, umpiring decisions and — that giveaway claim of every team down on its luck — the edges and mishits that have not quite gone to hand.

The truth is that Australia know how to win games consistently and England do not. When England are presented with a half-chance, they shy away from it, while the Australians seize it. There is only one team in this series starting each day believing they will win. Warne, of course, is the principal reason. Three more wickets yesterday morning gave him innings figures of six for 64 and a series analysis, after three England innings, of 17 for 174. Virtually no record is beyond him and some of the loftier ones may fall in the coming few weeks. He is a phenomenon, to be admired, celebrated and enjoyed by all except those who must face him.

It was not, however, Warne who gave England's day such a paralysing start but Craig McDermott, who is responsible for 11 of the remaining 12 England wickets to fall to bowlers to date. This was a vital one, taken with a sucker ball. It was a full toss, a stiff, start-of-play loosener, and a surprised Graham Gooch drove it obligingly back, waist-high, to the undeserving bowler.

'Peter May was easily the best England batsman since the War' — Raymond Illingworth Tributes, page 20

Much, if not all had depended upon Gooch if England were to repair the dents inflicted on Sunday evening and pursue that precious lead. To lose him immediately, and in such a way, made one either laugh or cry. Gooch, I suspect, did the latter. When Steven Rhodes, who made four and two in the first Test, quickly added a nought here, prospects of further resistance seemed slim. In the next hour, however, England added 61 runs, the tailenders batting with a positive intent that might better have been employed by the top order against Warne and Tim May.

There was courage, too, from Alec Stewart, who knew from a few painful minutes in the nets just what he had to go through to bat with a broken finger, but did so anyway.

Stewart entered to a rousing ovation, his finger injected and protected, and stepped out defiantly to drive his first ball from Warne back over his head for four. England have decided that a stand-by wicketkeeper is their priority and summoned Jack Russell, who will join them in Sydney. Before then, though, Stewart may have another innings to play, more agony to tolerate.

The seventh wicket added 34 in six overs and Stewart's partner, predictably, was Darren Gough. He had not seemed the obvious choice as nightwatchman but Gough is among the enviably irrepressible who shrink from nothing. Having dispatched his initial duty, he launched into more familiar territory, taking liberties in that way that can make even the insulted bowler smile.

Stewart aimed one leg-side hit too many at Warne, for whom this was his 150th Test wicket, and McDermott, gaining a reprieve just as Taylor had signalled May to bowl, dismissed Gough with his next ball. DeFreitas telegraphed a charge at Warne, the inevitable leg-side stumping resulting, and a brainless piece of running between Tufnell and Malcolm brought the debacle to a comical end.

England had lost six wickets in little more than an hour but Australia then lost only three in almost five hours. The pitch cannot have eased — indeed, the odd ball did spit or scuttle, stop or pop — but it looked a different, more placid game. Funny how often this happens when it is England who are in the field.

Malcolm bowled a respectable spell, either side of lunch, and had Mark Taylor missed at second slip by Hick. The fact that Gough did not take the new ball indicated the negative thinking already dictating every English move. When Gough was called, for the nineteenth over, he dismissed Taylor third ball.

By then, Tufnell had begun a long and impressive execution of the brain-dulling theory of bowling over the wicket outside leg stump. All but two of his 23 overs were bowled in this style and he conceded only 37 runs while having Michael Slater stumped. It was not, however, a tactic designed to dismiss Australians or advance the game in any way, rather to delay the moment when the beach boy would take off his sunglasses and flex that magical wrist.

Last gentleman, page 3
Obituary, page 17
Test for England A, page 22

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 279 (M E Waugh 71, S R Waugh 94 not out; D Gough 4 for 80).

Second Innings

*M A Taylor lbw b Gough (81min, 64 balls, 1 four)	19
M J Slater st Rhodes b Tufnell (121min, 74 balls, 5 fours)	44
D C Boon not out (211min, 163 balls, 5 fours)	64
M E Waugh c and b Gough (126min, 82 balls, 1 four)	29
M G Bevan not out (42min, 36 balls)	3
Extras (b 1, lb 5, nb 5)	11
Total (3 wkts, 89 overs, 292min)	170

S R Waugh, †I A Healy, S K Warne, T B A May, C J McDermott and D W Fleming to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-61 (Slater 35), 2-81 (Boon 10), 3-157 (Boon 55).

BOWLING: Malcolm 12-2-44-0 (nb 1; 9-2-28-0, 3-0-16-0), DeFreitas 13-2-41-0 (nb 2; 4-0-18-0, 8-1-16-0, 1-1-7-0), Tufnell 27-8-41-1 (nb 2; 23-5-37-1, 4-1-4-0), Gough 14-3-33-2 (7-2-21-1, 7-1-12-1), Hick 3-2-5-0 (2-1-5-0, 1-1-0-0).

ENGLAND: First Innings

*M A Atherton lbw b Warne (200min, 156 balls, 4 fours)	44
A J Stewart c and b Warne (52min, 28 balls, 3 fours)	16
G A Hick c Healy b McDermott (44min, 34 balls, 3 fours)	23
G P Thorpe c M E Waugh b Warne (150min, 117 balls, 5 fours)	51
G A Gooch c and b McDermott (57min, 52 balls, 1 four)	15
M W Gatting c S R Waugh b Warne (23min, 24 balls)	9
D Gough c Healy b McDermott (66min, 61 balls, 3 fours)	20
†S J Rhodes c M E Waugh b Warne (13min, 11 balls)	0
P A J DeFreitas st Healy b Warne (24min, 19 balls, 2 fours)	14
D E Malcolm not out (25min, 13 balls, 2 fours)	11
P C R Tufnell run out (Taylor/Healy) (7min, 4 balls)	0
Extras (lb 7, nb 2)	9
Total (83.4 overs, 340min)	212

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-40 (Atherton 13), 2-119 (Thorpe 47), 3-124 (Gooch 1), 4-140 (Gooch 8), 5-148 (Gough 1), 6-151 (Gough 2), 7-185 (Gough 20), 8-189 (DeFreitas 3), 9-207 (Malcolm 7). Stewart (1) retired at 10-0 and resumed at 151-6.

BOWLING: McDermott 24-6-72-3 (nb 3; 10-4-24-1, 6-0-19-0, 8-2-29-2); Fleming 11-5-30-0 (6-4-9-0, 5-1-21-0); M E Waugh 3-1-11-0 (nb 1; one spell); Warne 27.4-8-64-6 (5-1-11-0, 3-0-7-0, 19.4-7-46-6); May 18-5-28-0 (nb 1; 8-3-12-0, 10-2-16-0).

Umpires: S A Bucknor (West Indies) and S G Randell (Australia).

TV replay umpire: W P Sheahan.

Match referee: J R Reid (New Zealand).

PREVIOUS MATCH: First Test (Brisbane): Australia won by 184 runs.

MATCHES TO COME: Third Test: Sydney (January 1 to 5). Fourth Test: Adelaide (January 26 to 30). Fifth Test: Perth (February 3 to 7).

☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*

Atherton feels the heat as problems mount for his side in the second Test

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Tranmere's approach lets them down as rivals close gap on leaders

Thompson rewards Bolton's labours

Bolton Wanderers 1
Tranmere Rovers 0

BY PETER BALL

IT WAS a good Christmas for Bolton Wanderers. Yesterday, they attracted their biggest crowd of the season by some distance, 16,782, and leapfrogged back over Tranmere Rovers into second place in the Endsleigh Insurance League first division, cutting Middlesbrough's lead to four points. At the end, however, Bruce Rioch, the Bolton manager, found cause for complaint, criticising the demands on his players in the holiday fixture list.

"We are talking about £4 to £5 million people. Would you run the Grand National today and again tomorrow with the same horses? Of course not. We've come a long way in 30 years, the game is more scientific in the preparation for players. But we've had to eat our first meal after the game at Sunderland on Monday on the coach back. Playing four games in eight days is stupidity."

But if the holiday programme is no way to cultivate the finer skills, the crowd loved every minute yesterday. Apart from the town end, where an empty terrace, a supermarket and the electronic scoreboard stand, Burnden Park looked much as it did 30 years ago, and the match yesterday reinforced the impression as the teams slugged it out on a familiar, heavy Bolton pitch as the rain fell incessantly from sullen skies.

Bolton just about deserved their victory. The new year holds rich promise for them, with Norwich City to visit in the fifth round of the Coca-Cola Cup and another FA Cup run to contemplate.

Their only fear must be that cup activity could prove a distraction, as it did last season, but Rioch insisted: "We've got a stronger squad this year."

They also have the knowledge that coming second this season is no guarantee of promotion, with only one automatic promotion place on offer. Perhaps that is what Gary Stevens had in mind when he said on joining Tranmere: "The first division is the strongest in the world." Or, perhaps, Stevens has been in Scotland so long the formation of the Premier League escaped his notice.

Stevens was at centre half for Tranmere yesterday along with the impressive McGreal, and they did much to ensure that Tranmere stayed in contention for so long. The visitors had had the best early chances, but Malkin twice failed to get a touch as he skidded in to meet crosses from Jones.

Too much of Tranmere's approach work fell down with the final ball, with Morrissey a prime culprit. The thought had just occurred that he was having the sort of afternoon to justify everything Sir Alf Ramsey had thought about wingers when he proved the point, giving the ball away to Thompson.

Morrissey's attempt to get it back gave Thompson momentum as he skipped away from the challenge, beat Irons and then scored from 25 yards, his shot flying low past Nixon's left hand. It was a strike which deserved to win a match, and Thompson demonstrated that it was no fluke, twice more stretching the goalkeeper.

With McGinlay and Paatelainen hunting eagerly, Bolton always looked the more dangerous side. Tranmere patently missing Aldridge to give point to their attacks. Whether either can take the final steps to displace Middlesborough remains to be seen, but Bolton look the likeliest candidates with Wolverhampton Wanderers slipping away after their promising start.

BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): K Branagan — S Green, S Coleman, A Stubbs, J Phillips — D Lee, J McAteer, M Patterson, A Thompson — J McGinlay (sub: O Coyle, 80min), M Paatelainen.
TRANMERE ROVERS (4-4-2): E Nixon — A Thomas, J McGreal, G Stevens, S Mungall — J Morrissey, L O'Brien, K Irons, P Nevin — G Jones, C Malkin.
Referee: F Burns.

McAteer, the Bolton Wanderers midfield player, leaves Tranmere defenders in his wake at Burnden Park yesterday. Photograph: Barry Greenwood

Ferguson expects few favours from McGhee

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

MARK McGHEE, the new Leicester City manager, plans to repay Alex Ferguson for his advice tonight by denting Manchester United's ambitions of a championship hat-trick.

McGhee won three Scottish titles and a Cup Winners' Cup medal during Ferguson's reign at Aberdeen, and turned to the United manager for advice before changing his mind and leaving Reading to take over at Filbert Street earlier this month. McGhee, 37, still seeking his first win as manager of the side one from bottom of the FA Carling Premiership, gets an early opportunity to pit his managerial wits against his mentor when Leicester play United at Old Trafford.

"Although I fancy United to win the title again I'm certainly not looking to do Alex any favours," McGhee, who will not renew contact with Ferguson until after the game, said. "It's going to be tough for us, but we need the points as much as they do, and we hope to make things difficult for them. I'll be disappointed if we don't make a real fight of it."

Ferguson is aware of McGhee's abilities as United seek to shrug off the defeat by Nottingham Forest in their last home match. "It's a huge task for anyone down at the bottom, but Mark's very capable and I'm convinced he'll do well," Ferguson said. "It's tougher than ever this season with four clubs going down, and even the big clubs are feeling the pressure, like Aston Villa and Everton.

"It's not going to be easy for Leicester to get out of trouble, but Mark will do his best for them and you can already see his influence on the side."

The previous time United were defeated at home — by Chelsea — they embarked on a 20-game unbeaten run and, coincidentally, Glenn Hoddle's side were the first victims after their defeat against Forest. However, United's 3-2 Boxing Day victory at Stamford Bridge was not without a casualty, with Paul Ince likely to be out for several weeks after sustaining a hamstring injury.

Blackburn Rovers ensured United's return to the top of the table was a short one with their victory over Manchester City at Maine Road on Monday night, and the leaders will be out to maintain their two-point advantage by overcoming Leeds United at Ewood Park.

Kenny Dalglish, the Blackburn manager, may be back in charge after an appendix operation. If not, Ray Harford will continue to deputise, and Dalglish's assistant believes Blackburn will be well prepared whoever is in control. "It will be business as normal against Leeds if I have to prepare the team," Harford said. "It is three-man operation with Kenny, myself and Tony [Parkes]. Other people look at the league table more than us. We just take it result by result. We will see in May if we have got what it takes."

Liverpool, who beat Leicester on Monday, will be looking to build on their first league win in six games when Manchester City visit Anfield.

McGhee: optimistic

Millwall extend run

MILLWALL stretched their winning run in the Endsleigh Insurance League first division to six games yesterday when Tommy Mooney, the Watford striker, missed a penalty at the New Den with four minutes to go.

With Millwall leading 2-1, Tony Roberts conceded the spot-kick when he pulled down Craig Ramage, but Kasey Keller easily saved Mooney's weak effort to preserve Millwall's record.

Keller had earlier distinguished himself in a goalless but exciting first half, denying Ramage and Hessenthaler.

The stalemate was broken in the 51st minute when Foster, the Watford defender, stumbled and fouled Mitchell, Rae converting the penalty, and when Cadette finished a fine Millwall move ten minutes later, their victory seemed assured. Watford got back into the game, though, when Ramage was put through by Hessenthaler to beat Keller.

Graham Pooley, the Bishop's Stortford referee, cautioned seven players, to follow the six bookings he made in the match between Charlton Athletic and Southend United at the Valley on Monday.

Garner's thrust seals first blood for Wycombe

Oxford United 0
Wycombe Wanderers 2

BY OLIVER HOLT

A BRAVE new piece of local rivalry was initiated at the Manor Ground yesterday. This was the first league derby between two upwardly mobile teams, divided only by 20 miles of rolling countryside; a duel for the Nineties.

A pot-marked stretch of the M40 and one place at the top of the Endsleigh Insurance League second division separates Oxford United and Wycombe Wanderers as they blaze their way towards the big time. When they last met, more than 40 years ago, in the third qualifying round of the FA Cup, Oxford were called Headington United and the programme cost 3d.

Yesterday, parked cars lined Headington Hill more than an hour before the kick-off and supporters streamed through the rain to take their place in a capacity crowd.

They are both successful teams now, Wycombe on an ever-upward curve, Oxford bidding to recapture past glories. The home side, four points clear at the top of the table, was expected to win comfortably, especially in light of their 4-1 thrashing of Peterborough United on Boxing Day.

Denis Smith, the Oxford manager, was so confident that he left out Paul Moody, his top scorer. It looked as though his gamble had paid off early in the first half as Oxford dominated the game with stylish and, at times, invigorating football. Byrne, formerly of Sunderland, was at the centre of everything, creating opening after opening with one-touch passes and a bewildering array of flicks.

Oxford nearly opened the scoring midway through the first half when Byrne found Carter, on loan from Arsenal, on the edge of the box, and his shot dipped over Hyde but just cleared the Wycombe bar, too. For all their possession, though, Oxford could not find a way through. Their wide men, Ford and Carter, tired quickly, and Wycombe began to break with more confidence.

The visitors scored in the 31st minute with a classic counter-attack. Garner, the former Blackburn Rovers striker, played a fine ball inside the full back, and Bell's cross was met by the sliding Ryan, who diverted the ball into the corner of the net beyond the dive of Whitehead.

That seemed to drain Oxford of all their spirit and, although they laid siege to the Wycombe goal in a tedious second half, they never looked like snatching an equaliser. Garner set the seal on Wycombe's victory 12 minutes into the second half when he was brought down on the edge of the area and picked himself up to rifle Carroll's short free kick low into the bottom corner.

Smith threw Moody on two minutes later but he made little impression. Wycombe's win lifted them above Birmingham City into second place, three points behind Oxford.

OXFORD UNITED (4-4-2): P Whitehead — L Robinson, M Elliott, T Dobson, A Dyer — M Lewis, D Smith, S Ford (sub: P Moody, 59min), J Carter (sub: A Rogan, 75) — D Rush, J Byrne.
WYCOMBE WANDERERS (4-4-2): P Hyde — J Cousins, M Crossley, T Evans, S Brown — K Ryan, D Carroll, M Bell, S Stapleton — C Regis (sub: G Patterson, 56), S Garner (sub: S Thompson, 80)
Referee: K Cooper (Swindon).

YESTERDAY'S FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

FA Carling Premiership

TOTTENHAM (0) 0 C PALACE (0) 0
27,730
Does not include late kick-off.

Nottingham Forest v Norwich City

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

BOLTON (1) 1 TRANMERE (0) 0
Thompson 41 — 16,782

BRISTOL CITY (0) 3 STOKE (0) 1
Bryant 66, Allison 77, 79 — Cranson 83 — 8,500

GRIMSBY (0) 1 OLDHAM (2) 3
Woods 89 — Ritchie 11, Henry 26, McCarthy 56 — 6,958

LUTON (2) 3 SUNDERLAND (0) 0
Oakes 22, 26, Harrison 49 — 8,953

MILLWALL (0) 2 WATFORD (0) 1
Rae (pen) 51, Cadette 61 — Ramage 73 — 12,289

PORTSMTH (3) 3 BARNSLEY (0) 0
Newhouse 12, Creaney 20, 35 — 6,751

SOUTHEND (1) 2 WEST BROM (1) 1
Gridelet 38, 57 — Ashcroft 4 — 6,856
Sent off: Taylor (West Bromwich Albion) 85

Postponed: Derby v Burnley.

Does not include late kick-off:
Swindon Town v Sheffield United

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Middlesbro	23	13	5	5	36	20	44
Bolton	24	11	7	6	38	28	40
Tranmere	24	11	6	7	38	28	39
Barnsley	24	11	5	8	28	27	38
Wolverhmptn	23	11	4	8	40	31	37
Reading	23	10	7	6	28	22	37
Oldham	24	10	5	9	35	31	35
Sheff Utd	23	9	7	7	34	24	34
Luton	24	9	7	8	34	30	34
Millwall	24	9	7	8	31	29	34
Stoke	24	9	7	8	27	28	34
Southend	24	10	4	10	26	37	34
Grimsby	24	8	9	7	34	34	33
Watford	24	8	9	7	25	26	33
Derby	23	8	7	8	24	22	31
Charlton	22	7	8	7	35	33	29
Sunderland	24	6	11	7	25	24	29
West Brom	24	7	6	11	21	32	27
Portsmth	24	6	8	10	35	36	26
Port Vale	22	6	7	9	26	29	25
Swindon	23	6	7	10	30	37	25
Burnley	21	6	9	7	21	28	24
Bristol City	24	6	4	14	29	34	22
Notts County	23	4	6	13	21	33	18

Second division

BLACKPOOL (0) 1 STOCKPORT (1) 2
Mitchell 70 — Wallace 29, Gannon 89 — 5,745

BOURNEMTH (1) 1 CREWE (0) 1
Beardsmore 8 — Collins 75 — 3,325

BRIGHTON (0) 2 SHREWSBURY (1) 1
McDougald 68, Akinbiyi 74 — Clarke 2 — 7,290

CHESTER (1) 1 BRENTFORD (3) 4
Richardson 3 — Forster 8, 33, 69, Grainger 18 — 2,266

HUDDERSFIELD (1) 1 ROTHERHAM (0) 0
Booth 11 — 15,557

L ORIENT (0) 0 SWANSEA (1) 1
3,259 — Hawes 5

OXFORD UTD (0) 0 WYCOMBE (1) 2
9,540 — Ryan 31, Garner 58

WREXHAM (0) 3 PETERBORO (2) 3
Bennett (pen) 46, (pen) 82, Morris 67 — Morrison 16, 53, Ebdon 44 — 4,689

Postponed: Plymouth v Bristol Rovers.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Oxford Utd	22	14	4	4	41	24	46
Wycombe	22	13	5	4	34	24	44
Birmingham	21	12	7	2	38	13	43
Huddersfld	22	12	6	4	42	28	42
Hull	21	12	3	6	36	25	39
Brentford	22	12	2	8	41	21	38
Crewe	22	11	4	7	41	41	37
Bristol R	21	9	9	3	35	19	36
Stockport	22	11	3	8	34	29	36
Swansea	22	9	8	5	29	22	35
Wrexham	22	9	7	6	38	31	34
Blackpool	22	10	3	9	33	34	33
Bradford	21	9	4	8	30	32	31
York	21	8	5	8	28	24	29
Peterboro	22	7	8	7	29	37	29
Brighton	22	6	8	8	22	27	26
Rotherham	22	7	4	11	27	31	25
Shrewsbury	22	6	4	12	27	30	22
Cardiff	21	5	5	11	25	33	20
Cambs Utd	21	4	6	11	28	37	18
Plymouth	21	5	3	13	20	49	18
L Orient	22	4	4	14	16	32	16
Chester	22	3	4	15	16	39	13
Bournemth	22	2	4	16	17	46	10

DIADORA LEAGUE: First division: Tooting and Mitcham 1 Leyton 2. Second division: Chesham 5 Ware 0, Tilbury 0 Aveley 3. Third division: Hornchurch 0 Collier Row 1.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Dundalk 2 Shamrock 1, Monaghan 0 Sligo 6, St. Patrick's Ath 5 Cobh Ramblers 0.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Postponed: Willenhall v West Mid. Police.

Third division

CARLISLE (1) 3 BURY (0) 0
Currie 19, Conway 50, Reeves 76 — 12,242

DONCASTER (1) 1 SCUNTHRPE (0) 1
Bryan 23 — Carmichael 85 — 3,852

FULHAM (1) 1 COLCHESTER (1) 2
Hamill 6 — Kinsella 32, Blake 89 (og) — 4,243
Sent off: Locke (Colchester) 40

HEREFORD (2) 3 EXETER (0) 0
Lynn 35, Cross 39, Wilkins 55 — 2,567

LINCOLN (1) 3 DARLINGTON (1) 1
Johnson 33, Carbon 62, 84 — Slaven 11 — 2,964

NORTHMPTN (1) 2 CHESTRFLD (2) 3
Brown 39, Harmon (pen) 85 — Moss 3, 20, Madden 61 — 6,329

ROCHDALE (0) 0 WALSALL (1) 2
2,438 — Wilson (pen) 38, Lightbourne 74
Sent off: Oliver (Rochdale) 39

SCARBORO (1) 2 MANSFIELD (2) 5
Griffiths 36, Thompson 82 — O'Neill Donaldson 1, 76, Baraclough 6, Wilkinson 48, Noteman 88 — 1,926

TORQUAY (1) 2 HARTLPOOL (1) 2
Slumdge 23, Kelly 88 — Southall (pen) 35, Thompson 82 — 3,172

Does not include late kick-off:
Barnet v Gillingham

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	21	16	4	1	43	15	52
Bury	21	12	5	4	31	15	41
Walsall	21	11	7	3	39	21	40
Doncaster	21	10	7	4	32	17	37
Barnet	20	10	5	5	29	24	35
Chestrfld	21	10	5	6	28	24	35
Colchester	21	10	5	6	29	29	35
Mansfield	21	9	4	8	40	30	31
Torquay	21	8	7	6	30	27	31
Preston	20	9	2	9	26	23	29
Scunthrpe	21	8	5	8	30	27	29
Lincoln	21	7	5	9	27	27	26
Fulham	21	6	8	7	23	28	26
Darlington	21	7	4	10	24	28	25
Rochdale	21	7	4	10	28	43	25
Hartlpool	21	6	5	10	18	29	23
Exeter	21	6	4	11	18	34	22
Gillingham	20	5	5	10	25	31	20
Wigan	20	5	4	11	26	33	19
Hereford	21	5	4	12	26	42	19
Northmptn	21	3	9	9	16	24	18
Scarboro	21	3	4	14	20	41	13

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Lowestoft Town 2 Great Yarmouth Town 1.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Lowestoft 2 Great Yarmouth 1.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Dartenth Heathside 1 Cray 4; Greenwich 1 Folkestone Invicta 5.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Bicester 2 Brackley 2 Cirencester 0 Swindon Supermarine 4; Fairford 6 Carterton 0. Postponed: Abingdon v Kintbury; Cinderford v Moreton; North Leigh v Banbury; Shortwood v Almondsbury; Tuffley v Pegasus Juniors. First division: Cheltenham Saracens 0 Bishops Cleeve 3; Glenfield 3 Didcot Town 1; Easington Sports 0 Ardley Utd 0, Kidlington 4 Yarnton 1; Rayners Lane 0 Milton United 2; Wallingford Town 0 Lambourn 2; Wantage Town 3 Letcombe 2. Postponed: Cirencester Utd v Headington Amateurs; Endsleigh v Hallen; Wootton Bassett v Purton.

Pace-setters back on course for record

BY BARRY PICKTHALL

THE leading yachts competing in the Kodak Sydney-to-Hobart race were once again on track last night to shatter the 19-year-old record for this 630-mile classic. Leading the pack was *Brindabella*, Australia's champion maxi, and Grant Dalton's former Whitbread race winner, *New Zealand Endeavour*, now renamed *Tasmania*.

As the two yachts sparred on a close reach across Bass Strait, they were 15 miles ahead of the record-breaking pace set by Jim Kilroy's American maxi *Kialoa 3* when she set a time of two days 14 hours 36 minutes in 1975. Six miles astern, *Exile*, the latest 66ft IMS racer skippered by Warwick Miller, was holding off the British maxi, *Longobada*, skippered by Chris Law.

Congere, the 80ft maxi commissioned by America's Cup winner Alan Bond as a last sailing fling before bankruptcy overtook him, was 25 miles further behind in eighth place, fighting off *Tokio*, one of two Whitbread 60 Class yachts, now named *Volkswagen Sailability*.

Racing northwards, Alan Nebauer, the Australian BOC Challenge solo Round the World Race skipper, was expecting a nervous night picking his way through the Sydney-to-Hobart fleet. "At least I have a favourable breeze; just trusting it will continue," he said. Niah Vaughan, the first-placed British competitor, remains fourth in Class 2, 200 miles behind Nebauer, followed by fellow countrymen, Robin Davie and Nigel Rowe.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

RESULT: Minnesota 21 San Francisco 14

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

East division

	W	L	PF	PA
*Miami	10	6	389	327
†New England	10	6	351	312
Indianapolis	8	8	307	320
Buffalo	7	9	340	356
NY Jets	6	10	264	320

Central division

	W	L	PF	PA
*Pittsburgh	12	4	316	234
†Cleveland	11	5	340	204
Cincinnati	3	13	276	406
Houston	2	14	226	352

West division

	W	L	PF	PA
*San Diego	11	5	381	306
†Kansas City	9	7	319	298
LA Raiders	9	7	303	327
Denver	7	9	347	396
Seattle	6	10	287	323

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

East division

	W	L	PF	PA
*Dallas	12	4	414	248
NY Giants	9	7	279	305
Arizona	8	8	235	267
Philadelphia	7	9	308	306
Washington	3	13	320	412

Central division

	W	L	PF	PA
*Minnesota	10	6	356	314
†Green Bay	9	7	382	287
†Detroit	9	7	357	342
†Chicago	9	7	271	307
Tampa Bay	6	10	251	351

West division

	W	L	PF	PA
*San Francisco	13	3	505	286
New Orleans	7	9	348	407
Atlanta	7	9	313	389
LA Rams	4	12	288	365

*won division †won play-off place

PLAYOFFS: Wild card round: Dec 31: Detroit at Green Bay, Kansas City at Miami. Jan 1: New England at Cleveland, Chicago at Minnesota. Divisional playoffs: Jan 7: AFC wild card winner at Pittsburgh, NFC wild card winner at San Francisco, Jan 8: NFC wild card winner at Dallas, AFC wild card winner at San Diego. Conference championship games: Jan 15. Super Bowl: Jan 29, at Miami.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Cleveland 123 Boston 102; Houston 101 Miami 88; Orlando 128 Washington 121 (OT); Minnesota 82 LA Clippers 81; Milwaukee 101 New Jersey 97; Phoenix 139 Dallas 113; Philadelphia 101 Portland 94; Seattle 123 Sacramento 103

Eastern Conference

Atlantic division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	21	5	.808	—
New York	12	12	.500	8
New Jersey	12	17	.414	10½
Boston	10	16	.385	11
Philadelphia	10	16	.385	11
Miami	8	16	.333	12
Washington	7	17	.292	13

Central division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	18	8	.692	—
Indiana	15	8	.652	1½
Charlotte	14	11	.560	3½
Chicago	13	12	.520	4½
Atlanta	11	15	.423	7
Detroit	9	14	.391	7½
Milwaukee	8	17	.320	9½

Western Conference

Midwest division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	18	8	.692	—
Houston	15	9	.625	2
San Antonio	13	9	.591	3
Denver	13	11	.542	4
Dallas	12	11	.522	4½
Minnesota	6	19	.240	11½

Pacific division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	6	.769	—
Seattle	17	8	.680	2½
LA Lakers	15	8	.652	3½
Portland	12	11	.522	6½
Sacramento	13	12	.520	6½
Golden State	9	15	.375	10
LA Clippers	3	23	.115	17

CRICKET

DHAKA: SAARC tournament: Sri Lanka 147; Pakistan 148-9. Pakistan won by one wicket.

PORT ELIZABETH: Tour match (second day of four): Eastern Province 93-1 (K C Wessels 48 not out) v Sri Lankans.

CAPE TOWN: Tour match (second day of four): Western Province 436-9 (H D Ackerman 118, E Simons 102 not out, J Kallis 53, D Rundle 50). Pakistanis 232-5 (Basit Ali 53, Saeed Anwar 51, Asif Mujtaba 45 not out).

CYCLING

CYCLO-CROSS: Easy Glide Grand Prix (Kenilworth, 13 miles): 1, S Knight (Halesowen A and CC), 1:02:30; 2, J Taylor (Beeston RC), at 2:10; 3, A Siers (Royal Sutton CC), at 2:15. Middridge CRT (Gateshead International Stadium, 8 miles). 1, A Moorhouse (Cleveland MBC), 50.02; 2, J Lambeth (RT Elite), at 1.31; 2, R Colledge (Durham CS), at 1:33. Crabwood CC (Southampton, 13 miles). 1, J Norfolk (VC St Raphael), 1:00:11; 2, B Curtis (Wembley RC), at 4:56; 3, A MacDonald (GS Europa), at 5.04. St Ives CC (Huntingdon, 9 miles): 1, D Howitt (Melton Olympic CC), 53.00; 2, P Fielding (Over the Hill), at 20sec; 3, N Scott (VS Crystal Palace), at 50sec. JBA Meccles-field Supacross (South Park, Macclesfield, 13 miles): 1, G Foord (Scott International), 54min 46sec; 2, B Clarke (Team Raleigh) at 38sec. 3, N Craig (Diamond Back), at 55sec. Crabwood CC (Tatchbury Mount, Southampton, 10 miles): 1, J Norfolk (VC St Raphael), 55:52; 2, A MacDonald (GS Europa), at 4:41; 3, M Lloyd (Didcot Phoenix), at 1 lap.

FOOTBALL

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Manchester City 1 Blackburn Rovers 3.

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: First round: Albion 2 Montrose 5.

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: Revised second-round draw: Brechin v Stirling; Whitehill Welfare v Montrose, Forfar v Meadowbank; Bumtisland Shipyard v St Cuthbert Wanderers. Gala Fairydean v East Fife; Queen's Park v Greenock Morton; Cove Rangers v Cowdenbeath; Alloa v Ross County; Queen of the South v Clyde; Keith v Huntly; Buckie v Berwick; Stenhousemuir v Arbroath.

Ties to be played January 7

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke 8 Cardiff 7; Nottingham 5 Humberside 5, Sheffield 9 Peterborough 5; Whitley Bay 3 Durham 6. First division: Chelmsford 4 Medway 8; Dumfries 5 Paisley 9; Solihull 9 Blackburn 10.

FINLAND: European Cup: Helsinki: Group one: Jokerit (Fin) 6 Olomouc (Cz) 1; Pardaugava Riga (Lat) 3 Tivali Minsk (Belo) 4; Pardaugava Riga (Lat) 2 Olomouc (Cz) 1. Turku: Group two: Malmo IF (Swen) 4 Dukla Trencin (Slovakia) 2; TPS Turku (Fin) 3 Lada Togliatti (Russ) 3; Lada Togliatti (Russ) 3 Malmo (Swe) 1.

RUGBY UNION

Club matches

Askeans	11	Sidcup	3
Bournemouth	25	Havant	24
Leicester	31	Barbarians	18
Harlequins	13	Richmond	18
Musselburgh	8	Preston Lodge	13

Steve Fealey memorial match

Newbridge	83	Crawshays XV	52

TENNIS

WTA RANKINGS: 1, S Graf (Ger), 2, A Sánchez Vicario (Sp); 3, C Martinez (Sp); 4, J Novotna (Cz); 5, M Pierce (Fr), 6, L Davenport (US), 7, G Sabatini (Arg); 8, M Navratilova (US); 9, K Date (Japan); 10, N Zvereva (Belo); 11, M Maleeva (Bul); 12, A Huber (Ger); 13, I Majoli (Cro); 14, M J Fernandez (US); 15, B Schultz (Holl); 16, A Frazier (US); 17, L McNeil (US); 18, A Coetzer (SA); 19, S Hack (Ger); 20, I Gorrochategui (Arg).

YACHTING

BOC CHALLENGE: Second leg (Cape Town to Sydney): Class one: 1, Soda Calberson (C Augsn, Fr) 24days 23hours 40mins; 2, Vendée Enterprises (J van den Heede, Fr) 300 miles 27:10:37; 3, Hunter's Child (S Pettengill, US) 28.02:12; 4, Coyote (D Scully, US) 29.09.04; 5, Nowell South Africa (J Provoyeur, SA) 29:20:05. Other positions (at 08:00 GMT yesterday with miles to Sydney): 6, Thursday's Child (A Taylor, US) 1,087; 7, Ecureuil Poitou Charentes 2 (J Autissier, Fr) 1,516. Class two: 1, Kodak (G Soldini, It) 28:02:27; 2, True Blue (D Adams, Aus) 28:04:28. Other positions at 08:00: 3, Newcastle Australia (A Nebauer, Aus) 457; 4, Jimroda II (N Vaughan, GB) 855, 5, Cornwall (R Davie, GB) 872; 6, Sky Catcher (N Rowe, GB) 1,206; 7, Shuten-Doho II (M Saito, Japan) 1,415; 8, Henry Hornblower (H Mitchell, GB) 1,516.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm) °C	Last snow
ANDORRA							
Soldeu	20	40	fair	varied	art cloud	-1	22/12
(Most pistes becoming worn; 18 of 21 lifts open)							
AUSTRIA							
Mayrhofen	10	30	worn	poor	closed cloud	2	23/12
(Best skiing on hintertux glacier; 27 of 30 lifts open)							
Söll	10	35	fair	varied	worn cloud	1	26/12
(Most runs becoming quite worn; 10 of 12 lifts open)							
St Anton	20	90	fair	varied	fair cloud	0	27/12
(Light flurries improving snow cover; 25 of 32 lifts open)							
CANADA							
Whistler	95	280	powder	powder	good cloud	-4	26/12
(Packed powder on well groomed pistes; all 13 lifts open)							
FRANCE							
Alpe d'Huez	10	90	fair	varied	fair cloud	-1	27/12
(Light snowfall aiding conditions; 27 of 82 lifts open)							
Flaine	15	110	fair	powder	fair snow	-1	27/12
(Runs patchy even after fresh snow; 7 of 28 lifts open)							
La Plagne	20	70	fair	heavy	worn cloud	0	27/12
(Most pistes showing signs of wear; 56 of 112 lifts open)							
Tignes	40	110	good	powder	fair snow	0	27/12
(Fresh snowfall on a firm base; 37 of 50 lifts open)							
Val d'Isère	25	110	good	crust	good snow	-2	27/12
(Light snowfall improving conditions; 41 of 52 lifts open)							
ITALY							
Cervinia	10	195	good	crust	open fair	-1	20/12
(Good cover remains on most pistes; 20 of 27 lifts open)							
SWITZERLAND							
C Montana	10	40	fair	powder	closed snow	1	27/12
(Light covering of fresh snow; 17 of 40 lifts open)							
Mürren	20	60	fair	heavy	poor cloud	2	22/12
(Limited skiing due to high winds, snow forecast)							
Wengen	20	35	worn	varied	worn cloud	1	22/12
(Most pistes becoming patchy; 17 of 25 lifts open)							
UNITED STATES							
Vail	60	75	packed	varied	open fair	-8	15/12
(Good covering on all pistes; all 25 lifts open)							

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes, U - upper; art - artificial.

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Tottenham and Palace run out of ideas as managers' patience is exhausted

London rivals tire of seasonal slog

Tottenham Hotspur..... 0
Crystal Palace..... 0

By Russell Kempson

AN AFTERNOON for the statisticians at White Hart Lane yesterday. Tottenham Hotspur, the leading club in London, achieved their third successive clean sheet in the FA Carling Premiership and are unbeaten in seven matches. Crystal Palace, poor but proud rivals in the capital, played their seventh successive league game — more than ten hours of football — without scoring a goal.

For the purists, though, and those that govern the sport in England, it was an afternoon of travesty. That the clubs should be forced to play two matches, at a vital stage of the season, in the space of 48 hours: that the supporters, at a financially tight stage of the year, should be expected to pay twice in two days to watch their teams.

The end result? Players that tried earnestly but failed, on a pig of a pitch, to produce anything near what they are capable of. Supporters that tried earnestly to provide local backing but failed, in the cold and continuous drizzle, to generate any real warmth or atmosphere.

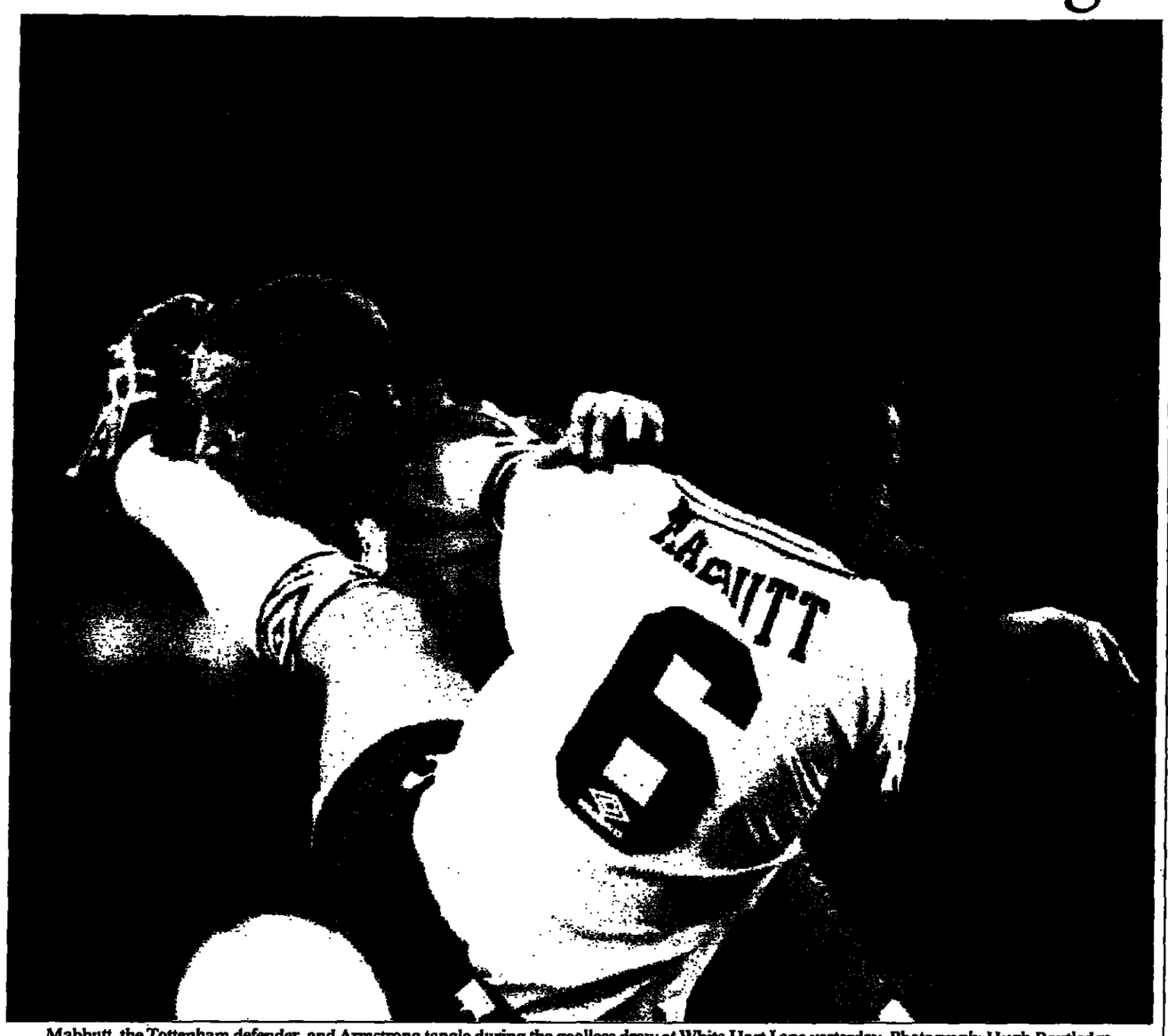
Alan Smith, the Palace manager, kept asking himself why he was in north London so soon after his side's 0-0 draw with Queens Park Rangers on Boxing Day, and laid the blame with the FA Premier League, which arranged the strength-sapping schedule at the start of the season. "If anyone can explain the logic of this, please tell me," he said. "I kept thinking, 'what the hell am I doing here. I should be at home'.

"Everyone I hear says that we play too much football but nobody does anything about it. OK, it's our job to play football and I accept that but it's the punters I feel sorry for. They are the ones who are being ripped off. It's up to the people who run the game to sort it out, but they don't have to pay to get in so what would they know?"

Gerry Francis, the Tottenham manager, sympathised with Smith. His side also played on Monday, securing a 2-0 win at Norwich City. "I agree 100 per cent," he said. "It is virtually impossible for players to perform at their peak over the two successive days. It's just not on."

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackburn	20	14	4	2	44	16	46
Man Utd	20	14	2	4	39	16	44
Newcastle	20	11	6	3	39	22	39
Liverpool	20	10	6	4	36	19	36
Nottm F	20	10	6	4	33	20	36
Leeds	20	9	5	6	29	25	32
Norwich	20	8	6	6	19	17	30
Tottenham	21	8	6	7	34	34	30
Chelsea	20	8	4	8	28	26	28
Man City	20	8	4	8	31	34	28
Arsenal	20	6	7	7	23	22	25
Coventry	20	6	7	7	20	29	25
Wimbledon	20	7	4	9	24	35	25
Soton	20	6	6	8	29	34	24
Sheff Wed	20	6	6	8	23	29	24
C Palace	21	5	8	8	15	20	23
QPR	20	6	5	9	28	35	23
West Ham	20	6	4	10	16	22	22
Everton	20	4	7	9	16	28	19
A Villa	20	3	8	9	22	31	17
Leicester	20	3	5	12	20	35	14
Ipswich	20	3	4	13	20	40	13



Mabbutt, the Tottenham defender, and Armstrong tangle during the goalless draw at White Hart Lane yesterday. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

Greasy conditions and a divot-strewn surface contributed to a miserable opening spell, with neither side able to muster anything of note. Austin's tantalising cross almost qualified for a ripple of applause, especially when Martyn lost his bearings and fumbled it, but the Palace goalkeeper swiftly atoned for his error by diving boldly at the feet of Barmby as he closed in on the loose ball.

After 25 minutes, though, action. Austin, a crucial influence with his right-wing raids for Tottenham, ran deep to the edge of the Palace area before relinquishing possession to Howells. His reaction was instant, firing in a fierce volley, but Martyn made an immaculate catch of the slippery projectile.

Palace replied instantly, Gordon's powerful header drawing an equally smart save from Walker. It signalled an impressive period for Palace that, as usual, lacked only goals to rubber-stamp its authority.

Five minutes before the break, Klinsmann was presented with his first chance. Not used to playing over the Christmas break, he had cut a forlorn figure for much of the proceedings. However, when the opportunity arose, from a slick move involving Sheringham and Austin, his control was poor. December 27 in Germany, Italy or France was never quite like this. Klinsmann's growing concern was no greater illustrated than in the 63rd minute when he exploded in a fit of pique after Coleman appeared to hold him back. He pleaded frantically with Gary Willard, the referee, to award a free kick — to no avail. He then indulged in a touch of push-and-shove with Southgate and Shaw that Willard decreed was no more than handbags at ten paces. Sensibly, no bookings.

As the surface deteriorated further, tired bodies and jaded minds created a jumble of misplaced passes and unimaginative ideas. When Palace did actually manage to put the ball in the net, 11 minutes from time, Armstrong was booked for it. Willard's whistle had long since blown. The game, also, had long since died.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — D Austin, C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, S Campbell — D Anderton, G Popescu, D Howells (sub: S Nethercott, 82min), N Barmby (sub: R Rosenthal, 45) — E Sheringham, J Klinsmann.
CRYSTAL PALACE (5-3-2): N Martyn — D Patterson, R Shaw, G Southgate, C Coleman, D Gordon — R Bowry, D Pitcher, R Newman — C Armstrong, J Salako (sub: P Williams, 28).
Referee: G Willard.

Barnsley swept off their feet in promotion tide

Portsmouth 3
Barnsley 0

By Andrew Longmore

BARNSLEY arrived at Fratton Park yesterday as the unlikeliest promotion candidates in the Endsleigh Insurance League first division. They left bedraggled and acutely aware of their own inadequacies and the fragility of their challenge to the big-spenders of Wolverhampton Wanderers and Middlesbrough.

Those huddled beneath a banner advertising the Jersey branch of the Barnsley Supporters' Club must have travelled in hope, too, after their side's handsome victory over their promotion rivals, Grimsby Town, the previous day, but somewhere between Yorkshire and the south coast, Barnsley lost their way. The delight of Boxing Day turned to a hangover as Portsmouth scored three times in the first 35 minutes to record their first home win since October 15.

Before the season, most people would have predicted Barnsley for relegation, Portsmouth for promotion, but while Portsmouth have staggered from defeat to defeat, beginning the day third from bottom, Barnsley have undergone a transformation under Danny Wilson, winning five of their last seven games to turn a hopeful tilt at the top to a headlong rush. Vertigo seems their main danger now, though new year fixtures against Middlesbrough and Wolverhampton will test their credentials to the limit. Nobody will be taken by surprise now.

"We have benefited from people saying: 'Where's Barnsley? What are they doing?', but now we're near the top, we won't be able to rely on others' complacency any more," Wilson said. "Last season, we had to play to get out of relegation trouble. This year, we've got to prove we can stay up the top. The approach will be different because people will be wanting to knock us off."

Portsmouth certainly found them wanting yesterday, for nous as much as skill. Portsmouth adapted to the near-waterlogged conditions better than Barnsley, who insisted on trying to play intricate, short-passing football when the big boot was the most effective weapon.

Portsmouth's third goal rather summed up the difference, a 50-yard pass from Symons outwitting the immobile Barnsley defence for Gerry Creaney to sneak in and put the game beyond the Yorkshiremen's reach. Wilson, though, refuses to compromise. "It's taken me long enough to teach them to play football, so I'm not going to spoil it all in one afternoon," he said.

For much of the afternoon, an ability to play round the puddles was Portsmouth's chief asset. Radosavljevic enjoyed a particularly productive dry run down the right wing. Time and again, he turned the three-man Barnsley defence, but a disallowed goal in the second half was the nearest he came to deserved glory.

By then, Portsmouth were home, if not exactly dry. Playing downwind, they were ahead inside ten minutes when Creaney released Newhouse, on loan from Wimbledon, to score his first goal for Portsmouth neatly from ten yards. Ten minutes later,

Creaney: scored twice

Portsmouth went further ahead, a corner by Radosavljevic evading the giant Taggart and landing on Creaney's head. Creaney's second effectively settled the issue.

Nonetheless, in Martin Bullock, a £15,000 buy from Eastwood Town, Barnsley had the best player on the field: mobile, inventive, quick and only 18. "We have several players who the bigger clubs would like to have in their squads," Wilson added, "but it's up to us to keep them." To add to Barnsley's woe, Taggart was taken off on a stretcher with a knee injury. It must have been a long, weary journey back to the Channel Islands.

PORTSMOUTH (3-4-3): A Knight — J Gittens, K Symons, G Butters — R Pethick, L McGrath, D Powell, R Daniel — P Radosavljevic, G Creaney, A Newhouse
BARNSLEY (3-5-2): L Butler — S Davis, G Fleming, G Taggart (sub: C Bishop, 73min) — N Eaden, B O'Connell, N Redfearn, M Bullock, D Shenden — A Payton (sub: A Rammell, 81), A Liddell.
Referee: G Singh.

Whelan proving good investment

Southend United..... 2
West Bromwich Albion . 1

By Ivo Tennant

TWO goals by Phil Gridelet, one flicked and the other deftly chipped over the goalkeeper with the arrogance that emanates from success, enabled Southend to achieve their tenth league victory of the season after they had been a goal down in the opening minutes of a game which provided heartening fare on a foul day.

So not every decent player and coach has been enticed away from Southend by Birmingham City and Southend's former manager, Barry Fry.

But Gridelet apart, the individual who did more than anybody to catch the eye was Whelan, which was not altogether surprising considering that he was still a Liverpool player a few months ago.

Managers come and go and yet no club has offered Whelan the opportunity to make the next logical step in his career. Indeed, his only offer, a two-year contract and £3,000 a week, was from Southend.

So he travels to and forth from his home in Southport — a little matter of a 5½-hour journey — and plays the same precise through balls that the Kop feasted on for years.

You had to be pretty competent to execute such passes on this greasy pitch. In one period in the second half, Whelan brought them off with alacrity.

It was no coincidence that Southend played better football then than they had hitherto, effectively winning the match. They are capable of performing well above their mid-table position, a victory at Middlesbrough a month ago when Gridelet scored his first goal for the club, being a case in point.

Admittedly, Southend were helped by the sending off of Taylor at a time when West Bromwich Albion were looking to pepper their penalty area. His late challenge — on Gridelet — was his second bookable offence of the match.

Greasy pitches or not, an opposition player seems to be sent off every week at Roots Hall at present.

Albion's goal was also splendidly taken. It was stuck low inside the near post by Ashcroft. Gridelet's equaliser was fortunate in that O'Regan, the West Bromwich full back, helped the ball in. But his winner, in the 57th minute, was deserving of a wider audience.

Receiving from Whelan, he spotted Naylor off his line and floated the ball over him from some 25 yards. His manager, Peter Taylor, feels he has come on a lot in recent weeks and no wonder. No doubt Fry and Birmingham will be after him before the end of the season.

SOUTHEND UNITED (4-3-3): P Sansome — M Hone, A Edwards, K Dublin, C Powell — P Gridelet, R Whelan, J Hails — A Ansah, R Wills, A Thomson.
WEST BROMWICH ALBION (4-3-3): S Naylor — K O'Regan (sub: D Smith, 75min), P Mardon, P Edwards, S Lilwall — D Bradley (sub: N Parsley, 55), K Donowen, I Hamilton — L Ashcroft, R Taylor, A Hunt.
Referee: M Pierce.

Allison's double stops rot

Bristol City..... 3
Stoke City..... 1

By Mel Webb

WHO would have thought it? Bristol City, justly regarded as one of the worst attacking sides in the first division of the Endsleigh Insurance League, scoring three goals? The home crowd at Ashton Gate yesterday could scarcely believe it and, it seemed from their glazed look as they trooped off at the end, neither could the home players.

It was only the second time this season that Bristol City, second from bottom in the table, had reached the dizzy heights of scoring three times in one game, and they were coming off a run of six successive defeats under the stewardship of Joe Jordan, their new manager. They seemed ripe for the plucking; Stoke must have been licking their lips in anticipation as they travelled west.

The game, played in driving rain on a gluepot of a pitch, was only redeemed by the goals, all four of which came in the last 24 minutes. It meant that Bristol City supporters among the 8,500 hardy souls in the crowd went home with slightly flattering memories of a game that, for 66 minutes, had been totally forgettable.

Bristol City flattered to deceive in a bright opening. Allison — tall, rangy and strong — twice narrowly failed to score before the game was three minutes old, each time Sinclair saving the day for Stoke.

Sinclair, a former Bristol City player, was called into action far more often than Welch, his opposite number, but he was spared the discomfort of picking up more mud on his already grimy person when Parris burst into the Stoke penalty area after 16 minutes and sent over a low pass that Baird glanced wide.

And that, as far as attacking endeavour went, was about it from either side in the first half. Bent exposed Stoke's lack of pace at the back with several raking runs on the right, while Stoke were restricted to long-range efforts by an alert home back line.

Nothing much changed at the start of the second half, and the game did not come to life until Bryant, the Bristol City centre back, scored the first goal with a 30-yard shot in the 66th minute that had Sinclair groping at thin air.

Allison leapt high in a traffic-jammed penalty area to head home a Bent corner in the 79th minute, and less than 60 seconds later made it three, again from a Bent pass. Cranson pulled back a goal for Stoke, but it was a show of defiance that came too late.

Allison: two in a minute

BRISTOL CITY (4-4-2): K Welch — V Hansen, M Bryant, M Shail (sub: R Dryden, 22min), S Munro — J Bent, G Owers, G Parris, B Tinnion — W Allison, I Baird (sub: S Partridge, 73).
STOKE CITY (5-3-2): R Sinclair — J Butler, I Cranson, L Sigurdsson, J Dreyer (sub: G Shaw, 82), L Sandford — J Butler, T Orlygsson, N Gleghorn — J Williams, W Biggins (sub: P Peschisolido, 71).
Referee: P Vanes.

Oldham continue to rise

Grimsby Town..... 1
Oldham Athletic 3

By Pat Gibson

OLDHAM Athletic, relegated last season, will soon be on their way back to the FA Carling Premiership if they can carry their Christmas form into the new year. Having thrashed Wolverhampton Wanderers 4-1 on Boxing Day, they had no trouble disposing of Grimsby Town, whose own promotion prospects looked as bleak as the icy squalls gusting in from the North Sea.

While Oldham were beating Wolves, Grimsby were losing at Barnsley, and the effect of the two results was obvious. Oldham were powerful and positive, Grimsby timid and apprehensive. The game was almost over inside 26 minutes.

Ritchie, the former Manchester United forward, is 34 now but enjoying one of the richest scoring streaks of his career. Fresh from his hat-trick the day before, he took only another 11 minutes to score his seventh goal in four games, meeting Brennan's free kick on the volley.

That goal was the result of poor marking and the second, 15 minutes later, came from sheer midfield ineptitude as neither Dobbin nor Groves moved to collect Futcher's clearance. Henry burst between them and beat Crichton with an emphatic drive into the top corner.

Grimsby had no response, their close passing game always foundering on the edge of the penalty area despite the eager running of Lester, a 19-year-old forward making his debut. Only once did he get a sight of goal and then his shot was blocked for a corner.

By then the frustrated Grimsby crowd was crying out for Mendonca, still their top scorer with eight goals despite the fact that he has been out with a thigh injury since October. But he was only on the substitutes' bench and, by the time he got onto the field, they had conceded a third, Makin releasing Halle on the right and McCarthy bundling in his low cross.

Ritchie: carried on scoring

Only then did Grimsby make any impact, and it was Mendonca whose pace forced Gerrard into a hasty clearance which sent the ball straight into the path of Woods, who slotted it into an empty net.

It was little consolation for Brian Laws, their new manager, whose mood afterwards contrasted sharply with that of Graeme Sharp, his Oldham counterpart, who has won five of his past six games.

"I always said we were in a false position," Sharp said. "And, if we carry on playing like this, there is no reason why we cannot get back into the Premiership."

GRIMSBY TOWN (4-4-2): P Crichton — J McDermott, P Handyside, P Futcher, G Croft — T Wasson, J Dobbin (sub: C Shakespeare, 65min), P Groves, D Gilbert (C Mendonca, 65) — J Lester, N Woods
OLDHAM ATHLETIC (4-4-2): P Gerrard — C Makin, R Graham, S Redmond, N Pointon — G Halle, L Richardson, N Henry, M Brennan — A Ritchie, S McCarthy (sub: D Beckford, 75).
Referee: P Wright.

Bury bemused by adventurous tactics

Carlisle United 3
Bury 0

By Louise Taylor

CARLISLE United are 11 points clear at the top of the third division of the Endsleigh Insurance League after a decisive victory yesterday, increasingly muddy conditions failing to disrupt their fluid passing game that brought a five-goal harvest at Hartlepool on Boxing Day.

So adventurous is the style adopted by Mick Wadsworth's side that many rival managers initially dismissed his tactics as too advanced for players at this level. The criticism has dried up at the same rate as crowds have multiplied at Brunton Park. Around 2,000 would-be spectators were locked out yesterday, the attendance of 12,242 being the biggest in the division this season. Part of the attraction was that Bury are second in the table, but on this evidence a very poor second. Carlisle will take some catching now.

They were ahead after 19 minutes when Daws scuffed an attempted back pass into the path of Currie, who not only left Kelly helpless but ruined Bury's game plan of man-marking him out of the contest.

Jackson, charged with that task, had to shadow the former Nottingham Forest forward by slotting into whichever back four position seemed closest to where his quarry happened to be. But Currie found his marker only a minor irritant.

Bury were constantly thrown into defensive confusion as Carlisle bewildered them with attacking moves and positional switches perfected during long hours on the training ground. Bury's offside trap was no match for this sort of versatility.

If Jackson was watching Currie, his fellow defenders were ball-watching when Conway put Carlisle further ahead in the 51st minute. Reeves whipped in a cross and Conway volleyed beyond Kelly from the edge of the penalty area.

The third goal arrived after 77 minutes, Reeves notching his eighteenth of the season from eight yards to round off a quick, clever counter-attack featuring Conway's measured through ball and Thorpe's equally calculated final pass.

Wadsworth's ability to bring the best out of cast-offs like Currie and Thomas and nurture indigenous talents, notably Prokas and Conway, has Carlisle on the crest of a wave which they will assuredly ride all the way into the second division.

CARLISLE UNITED (4-3-3): A Cay — D Edmondson, D Walling, D Mountfield, A Gallimore — P Conway, R Prokas, S Davey — D Currie, D Reeves, R Thomas (sub: J Thorpe, 70min).
BURY (4-3-3): G Kelly — N Jackson, C Lucketti, N Daws (sub: R Cross, 53), R Stanislaus — I Hughes, R Mauge, L Johnrose — D Pugh, N Matthews, M Carter.
Referee: D Allison.

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'A wonderful batsman and outstanding captain'

Simon Wilde on the tributes paid to Peter May, the former England cricket captain

PETER MAY, who died yesterday after a short illness at the age of 64, held a special place in the affections of a generation. When he was in charge of the England team, and the man around whom their batting revolved, the face of cricket had yet to acquire its stubble or designer shades, and memories of his clean-cut image have grown all the fonder for that.

John Major, the Prime Minister, said yesterday: "Peter May was one of the greatest batsmen English cricket has ever produced. He played and lived in a way few people could match. He will leave behind a legacy of personal and cricketing memories that many will treasure."

Raymond Illingworth, the chairman of England selectors, who first played Test cricket under May's captaincy in 1958, said in Melbourne: "Peter was easily the best England batsman since the war and a genuinely nice bloke. Although he played as an amateur he was as hard as any professional. If you gave him 100 per cent then fine, but he wouldn't tolerate anyone who didn't."

Raman Subba Row, who made his England debut in the same match as Illingworth, against New Zealand in 1958, recalled how brilliantly May batted on that occasion: "It was pitch black and Peter was hitting the ball everywhere for fours and sixes. I couldn't see anything but I was quite happy to stay with him as long as he was hitting the ball out of sight."

May scored a hundred that day, one of 13 in his 66 Test appearances and 85 in his first-class career. Had he not retired at 32, he would have scored many more hundreds and many more runs. As it was, he accumulated 27,592 first-class runs (average 51) and 4,537 in Tests (average nearly 47).

The reasons for his retirement were not clear. He cited ill health, but there was a suspicion that he did not like the way cricket was changing. The Rt Rev David Sheppard, another England colleague, said yesterday: "He played cricket in its best tradition and was deeply hurt by all the media attention he experienced in Australia in 1958-59. He found it distasteful and difficult to shrug off.

"It was a surprise that he returned as chairman of selectors in the Eighties because it was stepping into a kitchen where there was a great deal of heat, and temperamentally he did not like that."

The 1958-59 tour, on which England were beaten 4-0, was one of the few blemishes in May's captaincy career. He led England 41 times between 1955 and 1961, won 20 matches and lost just ten. He also captained Surrey from 1957 to 1962, leading them to the last two of their seven successive championships.

Richie Benaud, the former Australia captain, acclaimed him as an "outstanding captain" and a "great" batsman. "He was very awkward to bowl to, particularly when he and [Sir Colin] Cowdrey were batting together," Benaud said. May and Cowdrey shared the highest partnership in England's Test history, 411 against West Indies at Edgbaston in 1957.

May: traditionalist

Peter Richardson, the former Worcestershire, Kent and England batsman, felt May had special qualities as a captain. "He was very much in the [Sir Leonard] Hutton mould," he said. "He was very quiet, not a shouting captain. He probably had under him the best bowling attack we ever had, so to a certain extent it took care of itself, but he had a presence about him which was unusual. You always watched him.

"You never felt you were associated with anything like a boil-up, on or off the field, because he just never allowed that sort of thing to happen. He was not an inspirational captain but he didn't have to be. He made his presence felt with a bat in his hand."

Last gentleman, page 3
Obituary, page 17

Tour of India offers emerging players chance to impress

England A prepare for go-slow

BY SIMON WILDE

IF COUNTY cricket is the treadmill that Greg Chappell, Imran Khan and countless other self-appointed professors of English social trends tell us it is, then surely the best thing an up-and-coming player can do is get off the treadmill and onto the England gravy train as quickly as possible.

Darren Gough and John Crawley appear to be well on the way to making just such a rapid transition, their progress smoothed by assured performances during England's second-string tour of South Africa last winter. Today comes an opportunity for others to follow, as a 16-man party of England A players departs for a two-month tour of India and Bangladesh.

The need to test out burgeoning talent rather than make it serve time finally seems to have been appreciated by the Test and County Cricket Board, and there is a youthful edge to the party. Its average age is 24 and its oldest player — by six years — is Alan Wells, the captain. The days of rewarding a seasoned professional with a place are well and truly gone.

"Whatever the age of the player, let's find out if he can cope," Phil Neale, the team manager, said at Lilleshall earlier this month. "If they can handle it, fine. The players who do come through this tour and the previous one will have had experience of India and South Africa and these are the places to which the next two full England tours go."

The message, then, is clear and refreshing: for those with the ability, nothing will be in their way. It will therefore be especially interesting in the coming weeks to observe the progress of Glen Chapple, Richard Johnson and Michael Vaughan, none of whom is older than 20, and none of whom has played more than 25 first-class matches in his life.

The team will look for experience to Wells, Ramprakash, his vice-captain, and Salisbury. Ramprakash is only 25 and Salisbury 24 but both probably feel that they have already played more than enough county cricket. The tour manager is John Barclay — like Wells, a Sussex man — who is making his first trip with England A.

There is no better place to learn quickly than the Asian subcontinent. Barclay is prepared for the unexpected, but expects delays and frustrations. The players have spent time at Lilleshall practising on rubber mats to familiarise themselves with batting and bowling on slow surfaces, but admit there is nothing they can do about the dietary changes that are in store.

An itinerary that contains only six first-class matches — including three five-day internationals against India A rather than the two originally planned — may concentrate the minds of all the players, for their opportunities will be limited.

The most searching tests of technique may well be presented to the four specialist slow bowlers: Salisbury, the leg spinner, Weekes, the off spinner, and Patel and Stemp, the left-armers. It will also be interesting to see how the specialist batsmen cope with the gamut of twirly-armed tyros they are sure to face.

If India's recent practice in Test matches is anything to go by, there will be less in the pitches for the seamers, which is one reason why Dominic Cork will be doubly pleased if he is shortly called up to replace Craig White in the full England party in Australia.

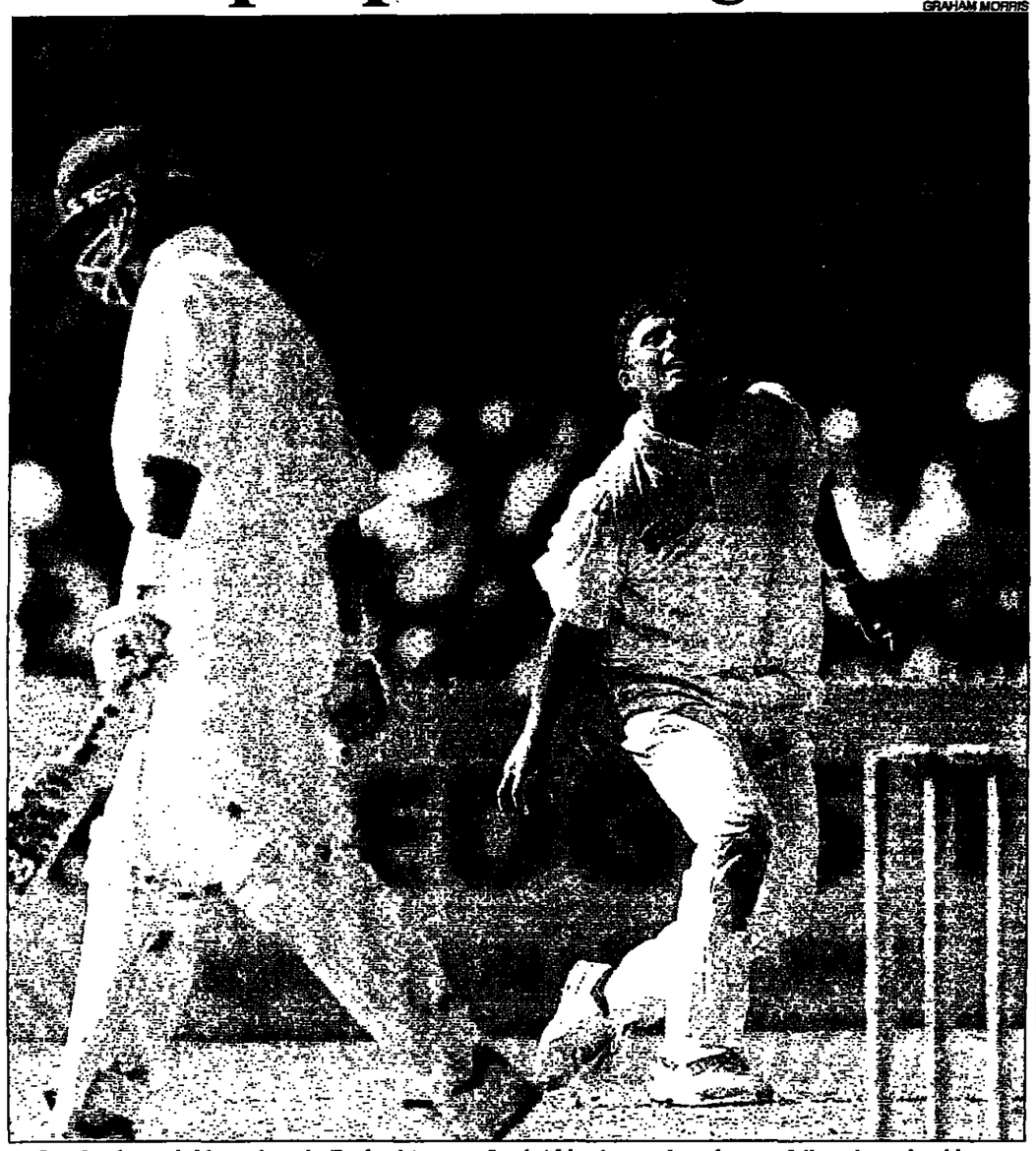
The Indian authorities have stated that it is their intention to treat the matches with England A as trials for their own potential Test players. This may be a sobering experience for the touring team, because they will probably discover that India is just one more country whose youngsters are streets ahead of their own.

DETAILS

TOUR PARTY: A P Wells (Sussex, captain), M R Ramprakash (Middlesex, vice-captain), G Chapple (Lancashire), D G Cork (Derbyshire), J E R Gallian (Lancashire), D L Hemp (Glamorgan), M C Ilott (Essex), R L Johnson (Middlesex), N V Knight (Warwickshire), P A Nixon (Leicestershire), M M Patel (Kent), K J Piper (Warwickshire), I D K Salisbury (Sussex), R D Stemp (Yorkshire), M P Vaughan (Yorkshire), P N Weekes (Middlesex). Team manager: P A Neale. Tour manager: J R T Barclay

ITINERARY: Jan 2: v CCI XI (Bombay) 3-6: v India Youth XI (Bombay) 8-11: President's XI (Madras) 14-18: International match v India A (Bangalore) 21-24: Combined Universities XI (Delhi) 27-31: International match (Calcutta) Feb 4-8: International match (Chandigarh) 11: One-day international v India A (Indore). 14: One-day international (Ahmedabad). 16: One-day international (Hyderabad) 20: v Bangladesh XI (Dhaka) 22: v Bangladesh XI (Dhaka) 24-26: v Bangladesh XI (Dhaka).

GRAHAM MORRIS



Gough, who made his mark on the England A tour to South Africa, has graduated successfully to the senior side, as he has proved in the second Test in Melbourne, where he dismissed Mark Waugh yesterday. Match report, page 19

Thomson's defiance gives New Zealand fresh hope

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

A BATTLING 82 from Shane Thomson and three wickets from Simon Doull pulled New Zealand back into contention in the second Test match against South Africa at Kingsmead, Durban, yesterday. When bad light ended play half an hour early, South Africa had slipped to 122 for five in reply to New Zealand's 185 all out.

Danny Morrison made the breakthrough in the fourth over of the South Africa innings, inducing an airy shot outside the off stump from Andrew Hudson, on eight, who gave a straightforward catch to Bryan Young at second slip. John Commins, playing in his first Test, then shared solid partnerships of 48 and 49 with Gary Kirsten and Daryll Cullinan respectively. Kirsten hit four fours in his 29 before edging a delivery from Doull to the wicketkeeper, Adam Parore.

Cullinan played a handful of fine shots, including two sweetly timed cover drives off Doull, before the Northern Districts seam bowler trapped him leg-before for 34 with the total on 110.

Two overs later, Doull picked up the wicket of Commins for 30 when he hooked to Matthew Hart on the long leg boundary. Commins had batted for 159 minutes and hit three fours. All of his boundaries had come early in his innings as he showed his confidence by clipping Morrison through mid-wicket for four, and then twice dispatching Chris Pringle to the fence. He then settled in responsibly as he tried to prevent the innings wobbling. Rhodes was the fifth man out, pushing a bat-pad catch to Fleming off the bowling of Hart.

Earlier, the South Africans made heavy weather of capturing the last two New Zealand wickets as the touring team took their total from an overnight 130 for eight to 185 all out. Thomson led the way, making 82 and sharing a ninth-wicket partnership of 66 with Morrison, which was only broken by Fanie de Villiers ten minutes before lunch. Thomson's innings, which followed the 84 he made in the first Test, lasted 205 minutes and included 11 fours and two sixes from 135 balls.

Thomson was caught by Kirsten off De Villiers, who wrapped up the innings with the sixth ball after lunch when Pringle popped up a catch to Kirsten at short leg. He finished with five for 64, his second five-wicket haul in Test cricket.

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings

B A Young b Jack	2
D J Murray c Richardson b De Villiers	38
S P Fleming c Jack b De Villiers	4
M D Crowe c De Villiers b Jack	18
*K R Rutherford c Commins b De Villiers	0
S A Thomson c Kirsten b De Villiers	82
†A C Parore c Kirsten b McMillan	5
M N Hart c Cronje b McMillan	5
S B Doull c Richardson b McMillan	0
D K Morrison not out	24
C Pringle c Kirsten b De Villiers	0
Extras (lb 4, nb 3)	7
Total	185

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-19, 3-62, 4-65, 5-66, 6-102, 7-114, 8-114, 9-180.

BOWLING: Jack 16-7-32-2, De Villiers 24-7-84-5, Matthews 19-11-37-0; McMillan 19-8-40-3; Cronje 4-1-8-0

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings

A C Hudson c Young b Morrison	8
G Kirsten c Parore b Doull	29
J B Commins c Hart b Doull	30
D J Cullinan lbw b Doull	34
*W J Cronje not out	10
J N Rhodes c Fleming b Hart	1
B M McMillan not out	0
Extras (lb 3, nb 7)	10
Total (5 wkts)	122

†D J Richardson, C R Matthews, P S de Villiers and S D Jack to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-61, 3-110, 4-111, 5-122.

BOWLING: Morrison 11.2-3-28-1; Doull 16-5-42-3, Pringle 7-2-16-0; Hart 12-2-33-1

Umpires: C Mitchley (SA) and Khizar Hayat (Pakistan)

☐ The second day of Sri Lanka's four-day tour match against Eastern Province at St Georges Park, Port Elizabeth, was washed out without a ball bowled yesterday. Eastern Province were 93 for one overnight.

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.45 unless stated
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FA Carling Premiership
Aston Villa v Chelsea
Blackburn v Leeds
Ipswich v Arsenal
Liverpool v Man City
Man Utd v Leicester (8.0)
QPR v Southampton
Shelf Wed v Coventry
Wimbledon v West Ham

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
Middlesbrough v Notts County
Port Vale v Reading
Wolverhampton v Charlton

Second division
Bradford v Hull
Cambridge Utd v York
*Cardiff v Birmingham (12.30)

Third division
*Wigan v Preston (7.30)

DIADORA LEAGUE: Second division: Hampton v Metropolitan Police. Third division: Feltham and Hounslow B v Epsom and Ewell.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Bristol Rovers v Ipswich (at Yate Town FC, 7.30).

FA VASE: Third round replay: Liskeard v Tunbridge Wells

SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier League Under-18 Trophy: Greater Manchester v Cheshire (at Ratcliffe Borough, 7.15), Middlesex v Inner London (at Stanmore, 1.0).

RUGBY UNION

Representative match
Scottish Schools B v Australia Schools (at Hughenden, Glasgow, 2.15)

OTHER SPORT

DARTS: WDC world championships (Circus Tavern, Purfleet).

TABLE TENNIS: England v China (Woking)

SNOOKER: European League: A McManus v K Doherty; S Davis v J White (Irthlingborough)

Vikings capture the divisional spoils

THE Minnesota Vikings secured the National Football Conference (NFC) Central division American football title for the second time in three years with a 21-14 victory over the San Francisco 49ers yesterday. Despite being without their regular quarterback, Warren Moon, because of injury, the Vikings took their record for the season to 10-6 as Fuad Reveiz extended his run of consecutive field goal successes to 28, one behind the record set by John Carney, of the San Diego Chargers, in 1993.

The defeat brought to an end a ten-game winning run for the 49ers, who had already taken the NFC West title. The Philadelphia Eagles have dismissed their head coach, Rich Kotite. Dick Vermeil, the only coach to take the Eagles to the Super Bowl, is reported to be considering returning to the team he left 12 years ago because of "burn-out".

Searching for snow

SKIING: Poor snow conditions are continuing to disrupt the Alpine World Cup calendar. Organisers were yesterday forced to postpone a men's downhill at Crans Montana, Switzerland, on January 6. An International Ski Federation official said efforts to switch this and other postponed races elsewhere were being handicapped by unseasonal weather, although a men's giant slalom will go ahead in Kranjska Gora, Slovenia, on January 6.

Taylor joins casualties

RUGBY UNION: Hemi Taylor has been ruled out of Wales's opening five nations' championship match against France on January 21, having been detained in Cardiff Royal Infirmary after undergoing surgery to four knuckles injured in an incident in a wine bar. Taylor joins an injury list that already included Ieuan Evans, Mike Rayer, Nigel Davies, Rupert Moon, Emyr Lewis and Derwyn Jones.

Nunez off critical list

BOXING: Danny Nunez, of the Dominican Republic, was in a stable condition yesterday and is likely be discharged and allowed to return home on Friday, a Bangkok hospital spokesman said. Nunez was critically ill in hospital after being knocked out by the World Boxing Association flyweight champion, Saen Sor Ploenchit, of Thailand, in the eleventh round of their title contest on Sunday.

Widnes sign Alvarez

RUGBY LEAGUE: Widnes have signed the Australian centre, Sean Alvarez, 25, to complete their quota of overseas players. Alvarez, whose parents are Spanish, has signed an 18-month contract after impressing in reserve team trials. The Great Britain scrum-half, Andy Gregory, who is again troubled by a knee injury, seems certain to miss Salford's New Year's Day game at Bradford.

Umpire strikes back

CRICKET: Sanjay Manjrekar, the Indian Test batsman, was sent off the field at the weekend by an umpire who accused him of using foul language. Manjrekar, leading Bombay in a Ranji Trophy match in Sholapur, was ordered off for a session after he ignored a warning from the umpire, V. L. Kulkarni, who alleged that Manjrekar had used foul language in disputing decisions.

Foord a muddy victor

CYCLING: Gary Foord won the 13-mile JBA Software cyclo-cross at Macclesfield yesterday in bog-like conditions (Peter Bryan writes). Despite a fall, Barrie Clarke recovered to finish second, 38 seconds adrift of Foord's winning time of 54min 46sec. Nick Craig came third. Chris Young started strongly but then became entangled with the course marker tapes and fell, bringing Clarke down in the process.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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(ALL IN MEMBERS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION).
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF THE ABOVE NAMED COMPANIES
On 16 December 1994 the above dormant companies were placed in members voluntary liquidation and Anthony Victor Lomas of Price Waterhouse was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.
The liquidator gives notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the companies must send details in writing, of any claim against the companies to the liquidator, at No1 London Bridge, London, SE1 9QL by 27 January 1995 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date specified will not be included in the distribution.
The companies are able to pay all their known creditors in full and this notification is made purely to comply with the formal provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986.
Date 20 December 1994
AV Lomas
Liquidator
for above named companies.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - Home-Start Consultancy
The Commissioners propose to make a scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at 2 Salisbury Road, Leicester, or obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St. Albans House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX quoting reference SPJ-326146-A/1-CDL/dn11. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
EDECARD LIMITED
126 BUSINESS PARK, LLANTHONY ROAD, GLOUCESTER
GLOWAY CENTRE, MONNOW STREET, MONMOUTH
ALEXANDRA HOUSE, ALEXANDRA ROAD, SWANSEA
OLDWAY CENTRE, HIGH STREET, SWANSEA
(ALL IN RECEIVERSHIP)
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of creditors of the above company will be held at the Grand Thornton House, Melton street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP at 10.00AM on 4 January 1995.
In order for creditors to be able to vote, details of their claims must be lodged at Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP not later than 12 noon on 3 January 1995. In addition, a form of proxy must also be lodged prior to the meeting.
DATED THIS 14 DAY OF DECEMBER 1994
N C Wilmot
Joint Receiver

PRE-SCHOOL LEARNING EXPERIENCE LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High street, Manchester M4 1QD on Tuesday 10th day of January 1995 at 12.00 noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Pursuant to Section 98, subsection (2) (a) of the Act, Peter Lomas of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED THIS 21ST DAY OF DECEMBER 1994
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
S EIRCHENOUGH
DIRECTOR

ADVERTISEMENT OF REGISTRATION OF ORDER AND MINUTE FOR REDUCTION OF CAPITAL AND CANCELLATION OF THE SHARE PREMIUM ACCOUNT
Wellman, Zeiss and Group Public Limited Company
No. 000293 of 1994
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF ZEISS GROUP PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 16th November 1994 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above named Company from £5 million to £2,123,368,668 and the cancellation of the share premium account and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above mentioned act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 9th December 1994.
DATED THIS 9th DAY OF December 1994
Simon Olswang & Co
of 1 Great Cumberland Place London WC1H 7AL
Solicitors for the above-named Company.

ALEXIS JEWELLERS LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester on Monday 9th day of January 1995 at 12.00 noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Pursuant to Section 98, subsection (2)(a) of the Act, Mr Peter Lomas of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED THIS 20TH DAY OF DECEMBER 1994
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
D G NUTTER
DIRECTOR

European Food Transport Ltd (in creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 28th January 1995, to send their forenames and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned.
S.D. Sweden, FCA.
Leonard Curtis & Co. Po Box 585, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, 2nd Floor, London W2 6LP the Joint Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Joint Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
DATED THIS 14th December 1994
S.D. Sweden
Joint Liquidator.

FALKUS PROPERTY COMPANY LIMITED
Company No. 782977
Notice is hereby given that:
At an Extraordinary General Meeting of the above Company, held at 21 Cannon Street, Blackpool on 22nd December 1994, a Special Resolution was passed, authorising the payment of £100,000 out of the capital of the Company in respect of the purchase by the Company of 200 shares of £1 each from A.B. Falkus. The amount of the permissible capital payment was £100,000.
The statutory declaration and auditor's report dated 22nd December 1994 are available for inspection at Newtownbo Caravan Site, 211 Preston New Road, the registered office of the Company.
Any creditor of the Company may apply to the High Court pursuant to Section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 within five weeks immediately following the date of the aforementioned Special Resolution, 22nd December 1994, for an Order prohibiting the payment.

ARABIC: هذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Year when heroic triumvirate exposed the trivial and put greatness in perspective

Sport plays real part in matters of life and death

President Mandela is introduced to Hull, the England full back, by Carling, the team captain, before the international in Pretoria in July

Escobar lies helpless as Stewart, of the United States, celebrates the Colombian's own goal in a year that also brought the death of Senna

Sport is a juggernaut, a massive, skyscraper-wheeled god adored by the many, yet inclined to crush to powder the too-fervent worshippers who approach too close to its relentlessly revolving wheels.

It makes heroes of all who take part in its ceremonies: heroes for a minute or a day or a week. It also makes eejits of most people, but the badge of idiocy lasts a lot longer, if not forever. "Do I not like that!" In a single phrase, Graham Taylor, self-branded eejit, a former England manager crushed into pulp by the juggernaut of sport, expresses for all time the worshipper's lame and impotent protest against the inevitable turning of the wheel.

Yet — rarely — sport imparts to some a genuinely heroic status, one that lasts beyond the next day, or the next season. For me, 1994 has been lit up by the contribution of three out-and-out heroes. It is not possible to consider the sporting year without them.

Here is my heroic triumvirate: the men who set their mark on what has been (like all others) a turbulent sporting year. They are Ayrton Senna, Andrés Escobar and Nelson Mandela.

True, two of the above are dead and the other is a politician. Perhaps that sounds grim. But I wish to celebrate the part they played in the sporting year in terms of the life-affirming contributions they made to sport.

Motor racing is a sport in which every participant walks hand in hand with the Grim Reaper. "God had his hand on Formula One for a long time," Niki Lauda said, after the two days in which Senna and another driver, Roland Ratzenberger, were killed. "This weekend, he took it away."

The loss of Senna was something that shook belief: not in sport, but in news. It could not have happened. Senna was that impossibly rare thing, an athlete possessed — the word is chosen with care — by genius.

Senna driving a lone race, moving with every corner further from the rest. Senna scything through back-markers exuding skill, courage, perfect self-belief. Senna at Monaco.

He took his sport — he seemed to take the entirety of the sports pages — into another dimension of purpose and seriousness. Victory was a mere step on the way for Senna; his goal was something far beyond: "An enormous desire to travel further and further, to travel beyond my own limits."

When he raced, Senna was exploring, not his own supremacy — he took that for granted — but the far possibilities of human will and skill.

MIDWEEK VIEW

SIMON BARNES

He was exploring, not the nature of his competitors but, if you like, the nature of God. "I have been able to experience God's power on earth," he said. Like Faust?

In a sense, Senna's career was the most spectacular possible example of dedication worthy of a better cause. Senna was made of the same stuff as saints. In another time, or perhaps in another man, the qualities would have made Senna a martyr.

Martyr means witness. Of what did Senna bear witness? That in the trivialities of sport lie matters of grandeur and profundity. Not matters of life and death. Senna bore witness to things much more important than that.

Andrés Escobar also died as a sporting witness; but a witness to the world's folly. Escobar was the Colombia footballer who, at the World Cup match against the United States, scored an own goal and died for it.

When, with Colombia out of the tournament, he went home to Medellin, he was shot dead by an unknown hand. It is presumed that the killer was one of the legion of Colombians who had bet wildly and extravagantly on the team's chances of glory.

I watched that match in California and the longer the match went on, the more I felt a sense of dizzying unreality. The Colombians played without spirit, as if the last thing they had on their minds was victory. "I did not see the happiness of the players," their manager, Francisco Maturana, said. "And they always show happiness."

Perhaps one day we shall know the truth of the business. But the fact was that Escobar died for it. It seems that the players had something more important on their minds than football. Perhaps it was life, or death.

Escobar's assassin did not. For him, football itself really was a life-or-death matter. Escobar died for that pathetic belief. He is a witness to all the nonsense in sport: the folly that surrounds sport every time it tries to be something it is not. Sport can only be important if it does not matter. In its triviality lies its most important sanity.

And so to the third hero, Nelson Mandela, former prisoner of Robben Island, now president of South Africa. Two South Africa batsmen walked out onto the green grass of Lord's one Thursday in July and the entire ground stood to applaud them.

It was 29 years since South Africa last played a Test match in England. In the interim, cricket had been used again and again to give comfort to what was seen by some as a beleaguered nation: to give comfort, in short, to the system of apartheid.

Now, with the prisoner not only released but enthroned, sport has taken, astonishingly, a journey back through the ignoble past to a time some 29 years before. And so a band of 11 white South Africans and England's now traditional multi-coloured band of heroes fought out a riveting Test series, one ultimately decided by a heroic Englishman born in Jamaica, the descendant of slaves.

It is the tendency of all politicians, particularly those who have been imprisoned, to get their own back: to deny the last vestige of comfort to their enemies. But Mandela, instead of banning cricket as a crime against the state, has ushered South African sport, inevitably still a white-dominated business, back into the world again.

Football and rugby have led South Africa back into the mainstream of public life. No revenge. In truth, this is nothing less than forgiveness. Those who stood and clapped at Lord's were, even though perhaps not all of them knew it, celebrating that most rare of qualities.

For once, sport was able to play its part in a serious matter, a genuine matter of life and death. And, in the boycott, sport also did its bit, and it worked. In forgiveness lies the greatest triumph that sport saw during 1994. If such a quality is shown in the coming year, we shall be blessed indeed.

Kong pits power against England

BY RICHARD EATON

ENGLAND will have to cope with the world's most exciting young player when they take on China in the first of their six-match international series at Woking tonight. Kong Linghui, 19, is tipped as a future world champion after having won the Asian championship, the US Open championship and the Global Youth championship.

The victories helped the teenager to climb from 78 to 13 in the world rankings and encouraged the nickname King Kong. His appearance is sure to add lustre to the series against opposition which is usually young and of high standard but which is often little known.

In addition to Kong, England will face the China Cup champion, Xiong Ke, and the Asian men's doubles champion, Lin Xhigang. The home squad will be encouraged by their good record against China touring teams in recent years, and the fact that the English national champion, Chen Xinhua, made a welcome return to form against Germany in the European Super League three weeks ago after an indifferent spell by his high standards.

Chen, the Yorkshire-based former World Cup winner from Fukien, will play against his former compatriots in three of the matches, at Stourbridge, Grantham and Mansfield on December 30, January 1 and January 2.

England will start their opening match with two former national champions, Carl Prean and Alan Cooke, and the Oxford University student, Matthew Syed, who on recent form has been playing better than anyone in the country.

Late changes were, however, forced on the squad. Andrew Eden, the England No 6, who was chosen for three of the games, was confined to bed with an illness that causes loss of strength and swollen fingers. He was replaced by Alex Perry, the 19-year-old, who plays in the Swedish League.

Chen: back on form

Supporters pay tribute to a stalwart

Newbridge 83
Crawshay's Welsh XV . 52

BY GERALD DAVIES

STEVE FEALEY died in an accident at work in September. He was a carpenter. He was also the scrum half for Newbridge Rugby Club. He was 30 years of age. Yesterday, the Crawshay's Welsh XV visited the Welfare Ground to raise funds for his widow and two young sons.

Fealey was not of that scrum half kind who dominates the banner headlines although he might, in his mischief, readily steal the thunder of a more flamboyant, more illustrious even, player opposite him. He was not known much outside Wales. He always played at his best at home for his club but he might not have been able to ask more of himself were he to perform at a higher level.

With Hemi Taylor, now with Cardiff and Wales, as his No 8 and Paul Turner, now with Sale, at stand-off half, they formed a formidable trio which made other clubs fear the prospect of a visit to Newbridge. All three were toughly competitive and knew the game better than most. While the others drifted elsewhere, Fealey refused to roam and, since 1987, played 174 times for his club.

Fealey represented the kind of player who is rapidly going out of fashion. He epitomised loyalty. There were other qualities which endeared him to the followers of his club. He was, to begin with, the kind of scrum half which the Gwent valley clubs take to their hearts. He was a practical man despite his will-o-the-wisp nature. Born in Merthyr, he was a take-no-nonsense man on the field.

The proverbial terrier, he snapped at the heels of his forwards, scoring 89 tries, giving him a try every other match he played.

He was no ordinary player. But he was not of the type, either, upon whom representative honours were likely to be showered. By instinct, he was a faithful club man. Although he did not play for Wales he did travel with them to Namibia, playing in three of their matches. He was in essence what might best be termed a club stalwart. He did what he did simply for the pleasure of it.

A large crowd turned out to pay tribute to him, reinforcing the regard the Newbridge followers had had for him. They added some £5,000 to the fund and saw an 83-52 scoreline. His contesting and dogged nature would have raised an ironical eyebrow.

SCORERS: Newbridge: Tries: S Reed, P Crane (3), A Gibbs, C Phillips, T Withers (3), G Thomas (2), J Westwood, D Roberts. Conversions: P Turner (5), J Lloyd (4). Crawshay's XV: Tries: G Webb, H Woodland (2), Gareth Llewellyn, A Richards (2), S Connor, A Harries Conversions: S Connor (6).

NEWBRIDGE: J Westwood, C Phillips, G Hill, P Withers, S Reed, P Turner, R Williams; M Davis, A Witshire, B Fisher, D Roberts, C Crane, P Kawulok, P Crane, A Gibbs. Phillips replaced by G Thomas (40 mins), Hill replaced by J Lloyd (40).

CRAWSHAY'S XV: P Armstrong (Pontypool); G Webbe (Bridgend), G John (Cardiff), H Woodland (Neath), A Harries (Treorchy); S Connor (Abertillery), M de Maid (Pontypool), D. Joseph (Cardiff), G Jenkins (Swansea, capt), B Cripps (Abertillery), M Ficton (Abertillery), Glyn Llewellyn (Neath), Gareth Llewellyn (Neath), L Jones (Treorchy), S Williams (Metropolitan Police). Webbe replaced by A Richards (Abertillery, 40)

Referee: C Norling

Hallett finishes off Cheam's challenge

Cheam XI 0
President's XI 1

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

THE Cheam President's XI, accustomed to reaping a harvest of goals, had only 50 seconds to spare in sealing victory over the club's first XI in the annual Dick Hollands memorial hockey match yesterday.

The only goal was scored by Rob Hallett, of Old Walcountians, a late addition to the list of players announced by the president, Tony Bennett. The chance was set up by Danny Byfield, who was on as a substitute.

Thus was a dramatic climax provided to a match which seemed destined to end goalless after its partipants had struggled to control the ball on a grass pitch soaked by overnight rain.

There were times when the run of success by the president's men seemed about to be interrupted by the club side, whose best chance came soon after the interval. The ball bobbled over the stick of Miles, the goalkeeper, but Flanagan's reverse-stick shot was narrowly wide.

The club XI was well served in deep defence by Martin, their captain, and in midfield by Bull, whose save on the line from Byfield late on averted a goal.

The president's team, however, went close from a short corner just before the interval when a shot by Molloy was saved by Frost.

CHEAM XI: M Frost, N Mann, R Harmer, A Nightingale, C Bull, K French, T Glasford, M Flanagan, G Douglas, G Jones, S Fernandes.

PRESIDENT'S XI: M Miles (Surbiton); D Justesen (Surbiton), R Elwell (Richmond), W Davies (Wimbledon), G Merchant (Richmond), I Pinks (Sevenoaks), P Mulligan (Old Walcountians), N Pendal (Chichester), J Molloy (Surbiton), M Allcock (Epsom), R Hallett (Old Walcountians). Substitute used: D Byfield (East Grinstead)

Umpires: D Ann and C Burton (both Southern Counties).

Hawks make point with Cahill's strike

BY NORMAN DE MESQUITA

NOTTINGHAM Panthers' Boxing Day home fixture with Humberside Hawks was their first game for 16 days, and that could be why they dropped a point in a 5-5 tie.

They led 2-1 after one period, 3-1 after two and looked the likely winners when Rick Brebant put them 5-4 ahead with less than two minutes remaining. But Darcy Cahill brought the Hawks level once again with 77 seconds to go.

The meeting of Basingstoke Beavers and Cardiff Devils had much for a capacity crowd to savour. The lead changed hands five times, with the Beavers scoring the winning goal with only 23 seconds on the clock. On the final buzzer, however, there was one of those silly incidents, with players milling around, the referee dispensing 156 minutes in penalties and the man-of-the-match presentation having to be abandoned.

Things went more smoothly in Sheffield, where the Steelers gained a routine 9-5 win over Peterborough Pirates. Steve Nemeth was involved in six of the Sheffield goals, but the Pirates are still struggling in the absence of Dale Jago, who has a broken thumb.

Durham Wasps are still searching for consistency, but gained their first win in four games, and as it was over their local rivals, Whitley Warriors, it will have given them much satisfaction. Paisley Pirates continued to thrive and their 9-5 win over Dumfries Vikings took them to the top of the first division table for the first time, a point ahead of Telford Tigers, although the Tigers have four games in hand.

Blackburn Hawks have acquired a high-profile coach in Rocky Saganiuk, and four imports with premier division experience, but they have yet to show the improvement that might have been expected. Perhaps their 10-9 away win over Solihull Barons on Monday will be the beginning of a rapid climb up the table.

Results, page 20

Brebant: scored late goal

Something to cerebrate.

ONLY TWO WEEKS BEFORE DEADLINE, and Dr. Zbigniew Sawlowicz of Cracow – visiting Britain – still hadn't started his 10,000 word paper on platinum group elements.
In his own (six) words: *"My brain was on the edge".*

Happily, a friend suggested a little something to get the ink flowing – a judicious measure of THE MACALLAN "to be sipped slowly and regularly through two weeks". It worked so well

that Dr. Zbigniew tells us: *"It made the impossible possible".*
And, very graciously, he included The Macallan in the list of acknowledgements at the end of his paper – *the first time* a whisky has been so honoured in a scientific journal.

Just in case you missed his *IRIDIUM AND OTHER PLATINUM-GROUP ELEMENTS AS GEOCHEMICAL MARKERS IN SEDIMENTARY ENVIRONMENTS,* we thought you ought to know.

The MACALLAN The Malt

Pick a second-half team in our rugby game and win international tickets and satellite systems

Test your selection talents and try for points

Here is another chance for you to pick a winning tram for the second half of *The Times* Courage First XV rugby game and win valuable prizes including tickets to the five nations' championship. Just select the 15 players from the clubs in the first and second divisions of the Courage Clubs Championship who you think would amass the most points during the second half of the league season, which kicks off on January 7.

The selector with the highest total will win a trip to Paris for two to see the France v England match in 1996. Second prize is a trip for two to Murrayfield for the 1996 Calcutta Cup match between Scotland and England. Third prize is two tickets for the Pilkington Cup final at Twickenham on May 6 as guests of Courage.

This is your chance to play the First XV game and join 20,000 readers who entered the main, season-long competition. If you did enter at the start of the season but would like to play in the competition covering the second half only, this is your chance. Entry details will appear in *The Times* again but next week's closing date is looming.

THE GAME PLAN

The Times Courage First XV revolves around the players listed below, who represent the 20 clubs in the top two divisions of the Courage Clubs Championship. The object of the game is to select the 15 players who between them score the highest number of rated points during the nine remaining league matches this season (the first is on January 7, the last on April 29).

HOW TO SCORE

To calculate your team's rated points multiply the actual number of points scored by each player on the field by the rating beside his name on the positional playing field below.

Each Wednesday after a Courage Clubs Championship Saturday, the actual scores of all the first and second division players in the competition will be published in *The Times* together with their weekly scores and cumulative rated scores for both the whole season and the second half of the season.

The 50 leading selectors and their scores will be printed, together with the name and score of the weekly winner.

TEAM SELECTION

Select one player from each of the 15 positions below. Enter their code number beside their positional number on the entry form — for example, if Jon Callard is your selected full back, enter 001 beside position 15 on the entry form.

You must pick players only for the positions under which they have been listed, even if you know they sometimes play in other positions.

A **minimum of five** of your selected XV **must be players from second division clubs**. You may select **one kicker only** (denoted by a K after his name). If you pick fewer than five second division players or more than one kicker, your entry will be invalid.

The skill lies in weighing up the merits of a lower-rated, frequent scorer against a high-rated player who is likely to score less often. You should also remember that some clubs operate a rota system, so not all players will play in every game. Towards the end of the season, with the World Cup looming, some senior players may be rested.

The list of players for the second half of the season shows some changes because of injuries and departures. The new players have a code number of more than 300 and in five positions (numbers 2, 4, 6, 7 and 13) no replacements have been picked.

These new players are eligible for the second-half competition only; selections for the first half and full season games are not affected.

The second half of the season kicks off on January 7 *with some intriguing matches*. Bath, the first division leaders, are away to their neighbours Bristol, while Harlequins are hoping for a revival of fortunes against Sale, their visitors. West Hartlepool, away at Orrell, field the Scottish No 8, Rob Wainwright, who moved to the club after the start of the season and is one of the new players (No 314).

It will be equally intriguing to see if Justin Nott can maintain his slender lead from the first half of the season over the other 20,000 people who entered the first half of the competition. The team selections submitted by all those entrants will remain valid for the competition covering the whole season, with their cumulative scores from the first nine games carried forward to January. Each contestant is still in with a chance of winning the star prize of £10,000, the second prize of a trip for two to South Africa to see England's three World Cup pool games in Durban, or one of ten third prizes of a fully installed BT Satellite system, two cases of Courage Directors Bitter and two four-hour VHS video tapes.

The selector whose team achieves the highest number of points on each of the nine remaining Saturdays of the Courage Clubs Championship — whether that team has been entered for the competition covering the whole season or just for the second half — will win a fully installed BT satellite system and two cases of Courage beer.

Each selector who wins any prize also wins a prize for their nominated rugby club. This can be any British rugby club: the winner does not have to be a player, or even a member. The winners' clubs will each receive five cases of Courage beer, a Courage Best England shirt, plus one of the following, drawn at random:

☐ A training session by an England squad member;
☐ An England shirt or training shirt signed by the England team;
☐ A ball signed by the England team;
☐ A table for ten at the Courage lunch before England's game against Scotland in March.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. *The Times* Courage First XV is open to all UK residents aged 18 or over, excluding employees and their families of News International, Courage Ltd and their agents.
2. Postal entries accepted only on official entry forms or through the dedicated telephone line.
3. There is no limit to the number of telephone selections/entries anyone may make, nor to the number of postal selections/entries provided each is accompanied by a cheque/postal order for £1.50.
4. Calls are charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at other times. Calls should take about five minutes.
5. The instructions and explanatory copy on this page form part of the conditions of entry.
6. The decision of the panel of judges in any matter relating to *The Times* Courage First XV will be final. No correspondence.
7. *If there are ties for any of the* prizes, there will be a further test of skill to determine the winner.

HOW TO ENTER

By post: Complete the entry form below in block capitals (ignoring the Personal Identification Number — that is for telephone entries only) and send it, with a cheque/postal order for £1.50 made payable to First XV, to:

The Times Courage First XV, PO Box 600, Luton, LU2 0NZ.

It must arrive before noon on Saturday, January 7, 1995.

By telephone: You may enter by calling 0891 700 515 using a touchtone telephone. Most push-button telephones *with an asterisk and hash keys* are touchtones.

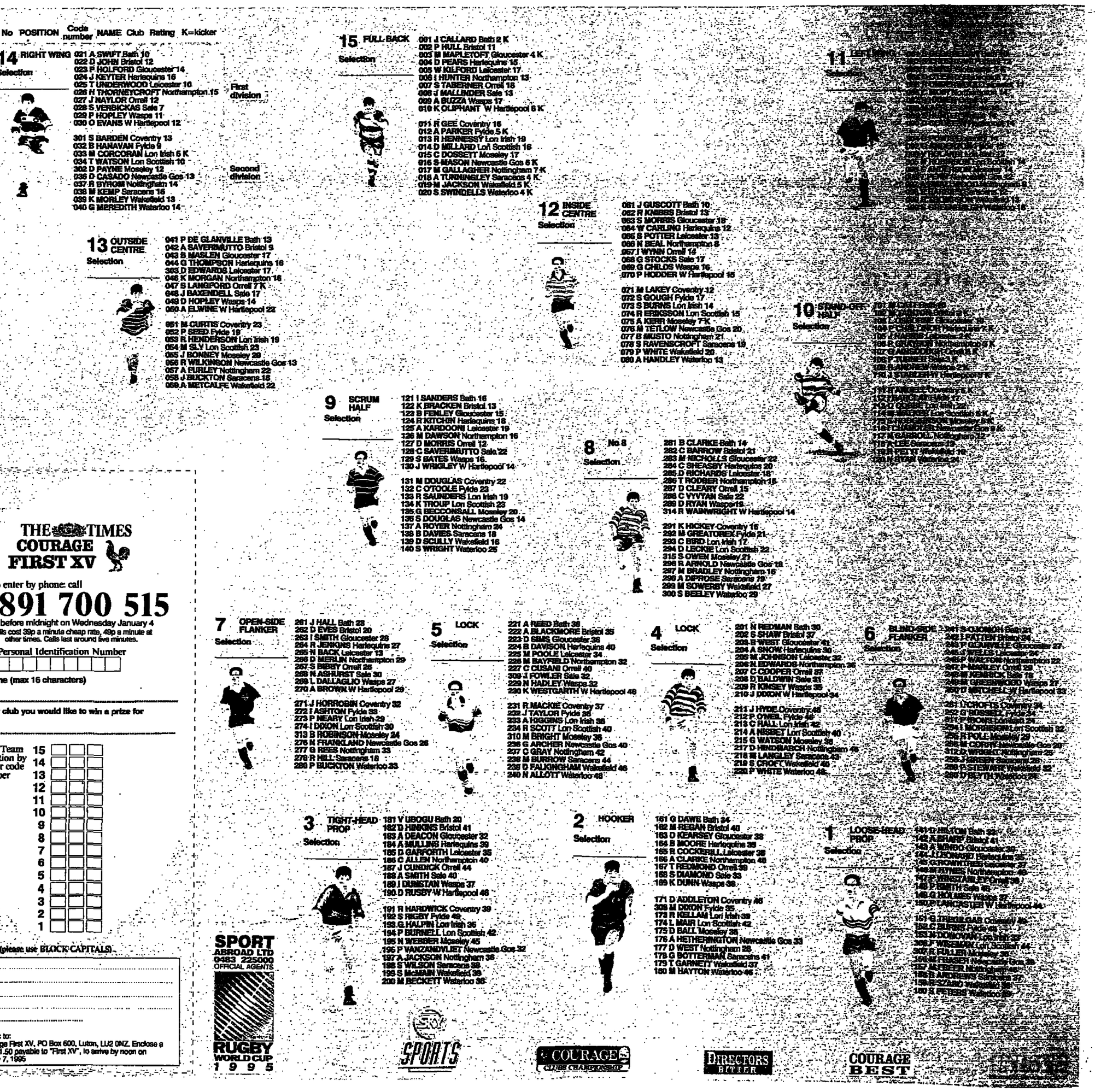
1. Fill in the entry form below and have it in front of you when you telephone.
2. The recorded message will explain step by step what to do; basically, you will have to key in ("dial") the three-digit code for each of your 15 players.
3. You will then be asked for the name you want to give your team (which should have no more than 16 characters) followed by your own name and address and the name of your nominated rugby club. Speak slowly and clearly throughout this section, spelling out any difficult words.
4. Have a pen ready to take down your Personal Identification Number.

Calls will be charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at other times. Calls should take around five minutes. Telephone lines are open 24 hours a day. The closing time for entering by telephone is midnight on Wednesday, January 4, 1995.

All selections received by the postal or telephone deadlines will be acknowledged within 21 days and selectors will be sent a score sheet on which to keep track of their teams' performances, with a team sheet confirming the selection. If there are errors, the amended teamsheet must be returned within seven days.

All inquiries regarding the competition should be directed to *The Times* Courage First XV, PO Box 600, Luton, LU2 0NZ, telephone 0582-457444.

Derek Eves, the Bristol flanker, is the highest scoring forward so far with 500 rated points



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Danoli looks best of Festival hopes

By Our Irish Racing Correspondent

DESPITE Merry Gale's position as ante-post favourite for the Cheltenham Gold Cup, he is still, weather permitting, likely to play second fiddle to another Festival hope, Danoli, at Leopardstown this afternoon. The meeting is subject to a precautionary inspection at 7am because of recent rain.

Danoli takes on his old rival, Dorans Pride, in the Bord na Gaeilge Christmas Hurdle, having been confirmed a definite runner only yesterday after a coughing scare.

Tom Foley, his trainer, said: "It's been a small worry but his blood test was clear. He was scoped last night and I'm happy enough with him." However, Foley added that if Danoli was in his present condition before a race like the Irish Champion Hurdle, he would not run.

This will be the third clash between Danoli and Dorans Pride, Danoli having won their two previous meetings, most recently over 2½ miles at Fairyhouse earlier this month.

Today's race is over 2¾ miles, not the usual prep race for a Champion Hurdle ante-post favourite, but Danoli should come out on top again on the way to the Irish Champion Hurdle.

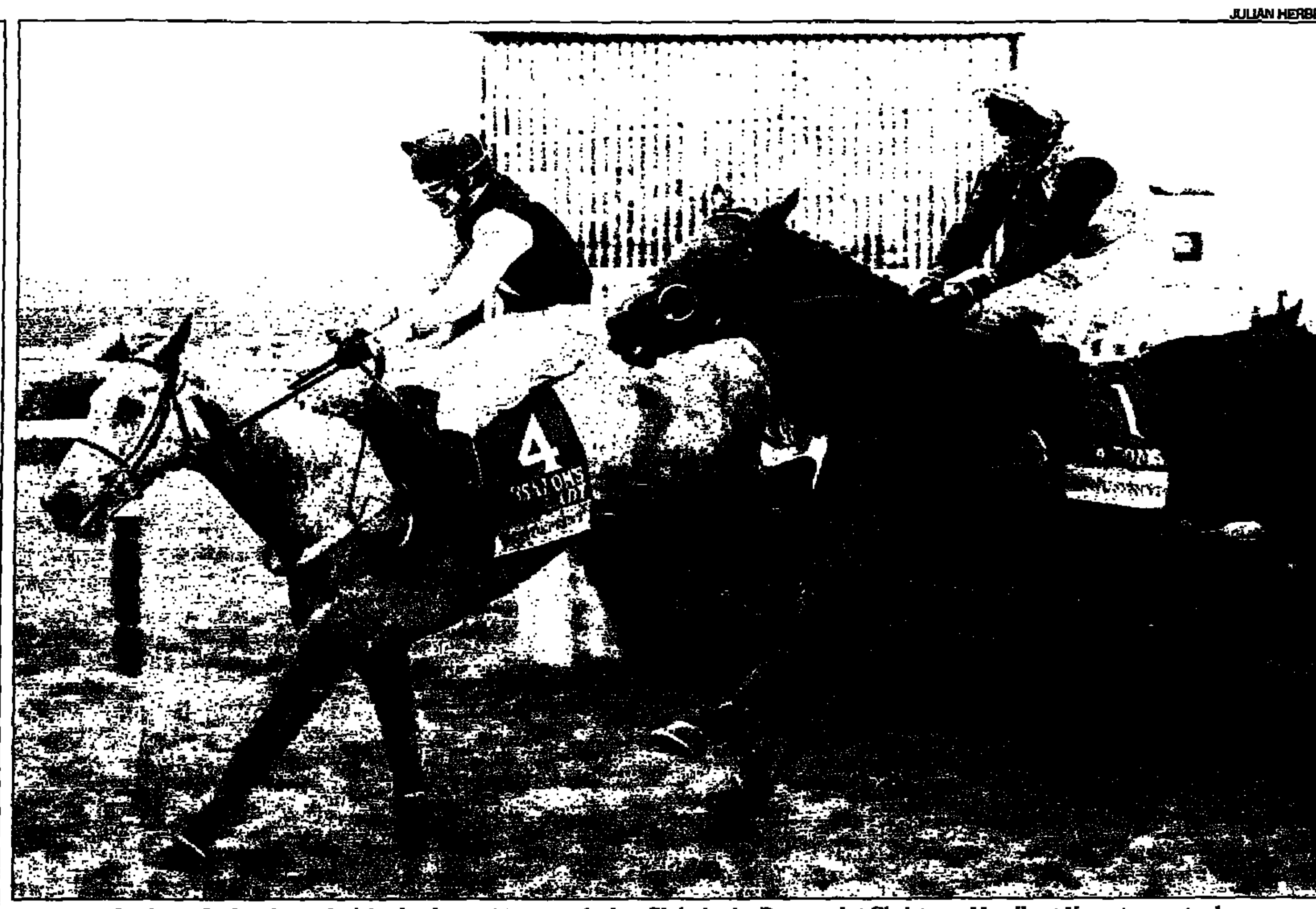
Merry Gale takes on Flashing Steel and three others in the Ericsson Chase, the biggest test yet for Jim Dreaper's six-year-old. His status as the Gold Cup favourite in some books owes more to perceived potential than achievement against quality opposition but Merry Gale should be well suited by this three miles on heavy ground.

Flashing Steel tired in heavy ground on his seasonal reappearance at Navan ten days ago but will strip much fitter today. Nuaffe, second to Dublin Flyer in the Tripleprint Gold Cup at Cheltenham, Commercial Artist and Fissure Seal complete the field.

BIG-RACE FIELDS

1.10 BORD NA GAEILGE CHRISTMAS HURDLE (Ir£6,850 2m 6f 5 runners)
1-11 Danoli 7 Foley 6-11-12 (C Swan). -122 Dorans Pride M Hourigan 5-11-12 (-); 2115 An Maineach D Swan 5-11-5 (-), 0-00 Beau Cinq B Duke 5-11-2 (-); 4313 What A Question M Morris 6-11-0 (C O'Dwyer)
Betting: 1-3 Danoli, 5-1 Dorans Pride, 6-1 What A Question, 25-1 An Maineach, 100-1 Beau Cinq.

2.45 ERICSSON CHASE (Ir£33,500 3m: 5 runners)
0143 Commercial Artist V Bowens 8-12-0 (G Bradley), F22- Fissure Seal H de Bromhead 8-12-0 (-); 45-3 Flashing Steel J Mulhern 9-12-0 (-); -431 Merry Gale J Dreaper 6-11-11 (-); 2122 Nuaffe P Fahy 9-11-11 (-)
Betting: 10-11 Merry Gale, 4-1 Flashing Steel, 13-2 Commercial Artist, Nuaffe, 14-1 Fissure Seal.



Absalom's Lady takes a decisive lead over Atours at the last flight in the Bonusprint Christmas Hurdle at Kempton yesterday

Absalom's Lady holds the aces

By Julian Muscat

THE well-worn pack was shuffled and the cards dealt in a different order at Kempton yesterday when Absalom's Lady, trained by David Elsworth, took her turn to land a recognised Champion Hurdle trial from a host of familiar opponents. Rarely has the hurdling scene been so bereft of genuine Cheltenham aspirants.

Third in the Bonusprint Christmas Hurdle last year, Absalom's Lady returned from a stint over fences to relegate Atours, her touted stablemate, to the runner-up berth. Flakey Dove, the reigning champion hurdler, ran without zest to finish fifth, a disappointing effort even if her jockey, Mark Dwyer, later acknowledged his failure to make more use of his partner's proven stamina. Even more dire was the running of Mysilv, who led until folding tamely on the run to the final flight.

How the racing world will be hoping for a towering performance from Danoli, the Champion Hurdle favourite, who runs in Ireland this afternoon. Even then, however, Elsworth will remain optimistic that he can coax Atours to slay the Irish giant at Cheltenham. Having saddled his charge to finish within five lengths of Danoli at Fairyhouse four weeks ago, Elsworth believes that Atours, the apple of his eye, is more than capable of avenging that defeat.

Absalom's Lady, meanwhile, is to be aimed at the Arkle Chase, although it would hardly be the greatest surprise to see her tackle the Blue Riband of hurdling in March. "The margin between these hurdlers in £50,000 races is so small that it is always tempting to run," he said of Absalom's Lady. "She'll be entered for the Champion but the plan is to get some chasing experience into her."

Much of Elsworth's analysis of the Champion Hurdle picture is valid. The problem is that none among his four candidates quite has the ability to capitalise. Muse remains unsound, Oh So Risky is suspect in heart and Absalom's Lady not fast enough. Atours completes the quartet, although the fact that he remains relatively unexposed almost certainly accounts for his trainer's enthusiasm. He will have to hurdle with far greater fluency, in addition to finding some 14lb improvement, if he is to influence the outcome.

"It was only two days ago that we decided to run Atours," Elsworth explained. "He had an enforced stay in Ireland and he's given us better signals in the past. He didn't jump too well today and certainly didn't jump in Ireland. We still have the option of blinkers, which I intend to explore before Cheltenham."

There were two other Cheltenham aspirants on show at Kempton yesterday. Gales Cavalier jumped and galloped with rare enthusiasm as he forged clear of Society Guest in the Bonusfilm Novices' Chase over two miles, while Amtrak Express, his fencing a joy to behold, treated Nakir with disdain in the Tripleprint Handicap Chase over an extended 2½ miles.

However, the hangover from Boxing Day's meeting still lingered when the Jockey Club announced it was to inquire into the altercation between David Nicholson and a racecourse photographer after the King George VI Chase. Nicholson, incensed at the close attentions of Edward Whitaker after Barton Bank threw away the King George prize with an appalling last-fence blunder, is alleged to have landed blows to the photographer's head.

The Kempton stewards interviewed Whitaker yesterday, but in Nicholson's absence the matter was referred to Portman Square. It is both lamentable and irresponsible that such an episode should have tarnished the sport on one of its most important afternoons, and the Jockey Club, quite properly, is to consider a possible breach of the Rules of Racing. Nicholson, at Wetherby yesterday to saddle Viking Flagship in the Castleford Chase, chose not to comment on the development.

At least his spirits will have been lifted by Viking Flagship's emphatic dismissal of Snitton Lane. Viking Flagship will be aimed at the Victor Chandler Chase at Ascot next month, then the Game Spirit Chase at Newbury, before attempting to retain his two-mile championship at Cheltenham.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: VALIANT WARRIOR
(3.00 Newcastle)
Next best: Into The West
(1.30 Newcastle)

Welsh National may transfer to Newbury

THE British Horseracing Board (BHB) is investigating the possibility of running the Coral Welsh National at Newbury on Saturday after the loss of Chepstow yesterday. Paul Greeves, the racing director of the BHB, said: "We have made good progress into the possibility of a transfer of the race to Newbury on Saturday.

"We have discussed the matter but there are still a number of people to consult. We expect to make an announcement tomorrow. The race will be run only if it can be shown on television and the BBC has the meeting scheduled for live broadcast."

If the race is run it is likely to be staged at 1.10, with the Rocking Horse Nursery Handicap Hurdle, originally the second race on the card, moving to the end of the programme. All ante-post bets on the Welsh National are void.

The Chepstow fixture was called off because of prolonged heavy rain. Rodger Farrant, the clerk of the course, said: "The course is waterlogged after 36 hours of torrential rain. We have had more than an inch in the last 24 hours and there are patches of water lying on the track." It is the first time since 1979 that the Welsh National has been lost to the weather.

Even Southwell's all-weather fixture was not immune as the meeting was abandoned after the second race when jockeys complained that the course was unsafe. Heavy overnight rain, which continued almost up to the start of racing, left surface water in places on the track.

A deputation of riders, led by Ray Cochrane, met the stewards before the third race, which was delayed while officials, jockeys and trainers walked the course. Several trainers, including Jack Berry and Paul Kelleway, were anxious for racing to continue, but Cochrane told the stewards' secretary, Nick Vigors, that conditions were the worst he had ever ridden in. The decision to abandon was taken in the interests of safety.

However, Ron Muddle, the chairman of RAM racecourses, which owns the course, was upset by the decision. "I'm disgusted," he said. "We'll soon see the day when footballers refuse to play on a muddy pitch. There's nothing wrong with the track. It's very wet but I bet it's still better than anywhere else on the grass today."

Another casualty was the Plumpton meeting this afternoon. Cliff Griggs, the clerk of the course, said: "We have had to call the meeting off because of waterlogging. We have had over 2½ inches of rain in the past 48 hours and it is still raining." Ten meetings have now been lost during this season, all except two to waterlogging.

There will be an inspection at Stratford at 7.30am today to determine whether the meeting can go ahead. John Ford, the clerk of the course, said: "We don't want any more rain but unfortunately the prospects of that happening are not good."

No problems are reported for today's other planned fixture at Newcastle. A spokeswoman said: "The meeting will definitely go ahead. There has been a slight amount of rain but not enough to change the going, which is good."

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Kempton Park

Going: soft (heavy patches)

12.45 (2m 5f hdle) 1, CLIFTON SET (A Thornton, 9-1); 2, Lying Eyes (R Dunwoody, 15-2); 3, Sails Legend (D Gallagher, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 13-8 fav Mountain Ballet (4th), 9-4 Dynamic Deluxe (pu). 5 ran. NR: Pride Of May. 1l, 30l, 2½l. M Channon at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £6.90; £2.70, £1.50. DF: £13.40. CSF: £54.29.

1.15 (2m ch) 1, GALES CAVALIER (M Dwyer, 4-6 fav); 2, Society Guest (L Harvey, 5-2); 3, Ile De Soo (D O'Sullivan, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Rainbow Castle (f). 4 ran. 20l, dist. D Gandolfo at Wantage. Tote: £1.60. DF: £1.70. CSF: £2.63.

1.45 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, AMTRAK EXPRESS (M A Fitzgerald, 5-4); 2, Nakir (J Osborne, 5-6 fav); 3, Brandeston (P Verling, 9-1). 3 ran. Dist. dist. N Henderson. Tote: £1.90. DF: £1.30. CSF: £2.54.

2.20 (2m hdle) 1, ABSALOM'S LADY (P Holley, 9-2); 2, Atours (A McCabe, 4-1); 3, Jazilah (R Dunwoody, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 2-1 fav Flakey Dove (5th), 15-2 Mysilv (6th), 12 Land Afar (4th). 6 ran. Nk, 2l, nk, 1¼l, 25l. D Elsworth at Whitcombe. Tote: £5.10; £2.50, £2.50. DF: £7.00. CSF: £20.76.

2.50 (3m ch) 1, NATIVE PRIDE (N Williamson, 100-30); 2, Bibendum (Peter Hobbs, 100-30); 3, Cuddy Dale (P Verling, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Yorkshire Gale (5th), 5 Crystal Spirit (4th), 10 Another Coral (pu). 6 ran. 7l, 8l, dist. 6l. K Bailey at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £4.00; £2.00, £1.80. DF: £4.50. CSF: £13.25.

3.20 (2m 5f hdle) 1, NICK THE BEAK (J Osborne, 3-1); 2, Second Call (R Farrant, 11-4 fav); 3, Meditator (S Curran, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Hawaiian Youth (5th), 10 Forest Feather (4th), Hasher (pu), 25 Festival Dreams (6th), 100 Honest Dave (pu). 8 ran. NR: Fools Errand. ¾l, 15l, 10l, 9l, 30l. J Upson at Adstone. Tote: £3.20; £1.30, £1.70, £1.90. DF: £6.00. Trio: £13.50. CSF: £10.82. Tricast: £45.27.

Jackpot: £4,262.80.

Placepot: £243.60. Quadpot: £14.50.

Wetherby

Going: soft

1.00 (2m hdle) 1, GOBSMACKED (M Moloney, 15-2); 2, Golden Hello (L Wyer, 5-2 fav); 3, Banana Cove (T Kent, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 11-4 Muzrak (6th), 5 Seaward (4th), 7 Heathyards Crusade (5th), 20 Astral Invasion, Rambollina, 25 Chowpor (pu), Golden Star, 33 Nez Carrera (pu), 50 Strolling Minstrel, 100 Auntie Fay. 13 ran. NR: Lightning Quest. 1½l, 2½l, 3½l, 11l, 2l. G Richards at Greystoke. Tote: £8.20; £2.40, £1.60, £1.90. DF: £22.70. CSF: £27.29.

1.30 (3m 110yd ch) 1, ARTHUR'S MINSTREL (P Niven, 5-2); 2, Clyde Ranger (B Storey, 8-13 fav). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Road By The River (pulled up), 20 Stirrup Cup (f). 4 ran. Only two finished. Sh hd. D Nicholson at Temple Guiting. Tote: £2.70. DF: £1.70. CSF: £4.38.

2.00 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, BURNT IMP (J Callaghan, 5-2 fav); 2, Blue Laws (D Bentley, 9-2); 3, Bend Sable (B Storey, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Couture Stockings (5th), 11-2 Peanuts Pet (4th), 10 Dominant Serenade (6th), 12 Deb's Ball (pu), 20 Who's Tef. 8 ran. NR: Fleas Vale, Montpelier Lad. 3l, nk, 4l, 5l, 3l. G Moore at Middleham. Tote: £4.10; £1.80, £1.40, £2.30. DF: £5.70. Trio: £11.50. CSF: £14.23. Tricast: £52.89.

2.30 (2m ch) 1, VIKING FLAGSHIP (A Maguire, 2-5 fav); 2, Snitton Lane (D Bridgwater, 25-1); 3, Sybillin (P Niven, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Deep Sensation (f), 8 Uncle Ernie (4th), 100 Political Tower (5th). 6 ran. 25l, 9l, ¾l, 5l. D Nicholson at Temple Guiting. Tote: £1.50; £1.30, £2.50. DF: £8.60. CSF: £9.84.

3.05 (2m ch) 1, NEWLANDS-GENERAL (P Niven, 8-11 fav); 2, Wake Up (R Garritty, 9-2); 3, Stop The Waller (G Cahill, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Seagull Hollow (4th). 4 ran. 1¾l, 11l, dist. Jimmy Fitzgerald at Malton. Tote: £1.70. DF: £3.80. CSF: £3.93.

3.35 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, OAT COUTURE (F Perratt, 4-1); 2, Banchory (L Wyer, 12-1); 3, Kadari (Diane Clay, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 2-1 jt-fav Kenilworth (6th), Raisin Turf (4th), 10 Ask For Barney (5th), 20 One For The Chief, 50 Byerds Leap. 8 ran. NR: Talos. 13l, ¾l, nk, 12l, 2l. L Lungo at Carrutherstown. Tote: £4.10; £1.30, £2.80, £1.70. DF: £20.70. Trio: £53.00. CSF: £43.93. Tricast: £482.03.

Placepot: £102.50. Quadpot: £15.30.

Wolverhampton

Going: standard

1.25 (1m 4f) 1, Noufari (M Wigham, 4-1 jt-fav); 2, Premier Dance (11-2); 3, Mr Bean (16-1). Carlton Express 4-1 jt-fav. 12 ran. 2½l, 1¾l. R Hollinshead. Tote: £4.60; £1.90, £1.70, £3.00. DF: £14.80. Trio: £53.40. CSF: £25.79. Tricast: £294.17.

1.55 (6f) 1, Frisky Miss (G Carter, 7-1); 2, Walk The Beat (10-1); 3, Everset (10-11 fav). 12 ran. NR: Cheerful Groom. Hd, ¾l. J Berry. Tote: £5.70; £1.70, £3.40, £1.30. DF: £41.70. CSF: £74.42.

2.25 (7f) 1, Master Millfield (S Sanders, 9-2); 2, Bold Effort (8-1); 3, Gulf Shaadi (11-2). Failte Ro 3-1 fav. 10 ran. NR: Keys Seminar, Mediate. 1¾l, 1¾l. C Hill. Tote: £4.80; £2.20, £1.80, £2.00. DF: £14.20. Trio: £21.20. CSF: £37.63. Tricast: £185.67.

2.55 (7f) 1, Tilly Owl (J O'Reilly, 4-1); 2, Kinnegad Kid (7-2 fav); 3, Quinzii Martin (11-2). 12 ran. 2½l, sh hd. J A Harris. Tote: £6.40; £1.90, £2.40, £2.30. DF: £11.90. Trio: £55.30. CSF: £20.42. Tricast: £78.13.

3.25 (1m 100yd) 1, Ballyhays (S D Williams, 20-1); 2, Supercool (9-4 fav); 3, Miss Charlie (16-1). 13 ran. 5l, hd. J A Harris. Tote: £50.80; £7.10, £1.50, £3.20. DF: £39.40. CSF: £65.73.

3.55 (6f) 1, Komlucky (J Quinn, 12-1); 2, Lawnswood Lady (6-1); 3, Needwood Newt (14-1). David James' Girl 5-4 fav. 11 ran. NR: Ivy Lilian. Sh hd, 1¾l. F O'Mahony. Tote: £16.30; £2.30, £2.60, £3.70. DF: £40.30. CSF: £67.13.

4.25 (1m 100yd) 1, Secret Aly (M Rimmer, 6-4 jt-fav); 2, Roar On Tour (6-4 jt-fav); 3, Ragazzo (20-1). 6 ran. 3l, 1¼l. C Brittain. Tote: £2.70; £1.30, £1.50. DF: £2.00. CSF: £4.21.

Placepot: £442.00. Quadpot: £94.90.

Southwell

Going: slow

11.50 (5f) 1, Matthew David (C Teague, 12-1); 2, Primula Bairn (9-2); 3, Green's Bid (8-1). Very Dicey Evens fav. 10 ran. NR: High Domain. Sh hd, ¾l. S Bowring. Tote: £6.70; £1.30, £2.50, £2.20. DF: £17.40. CSF: £63.25.

12.20 (5f) 1, Go Hever Golf (V Halliday, 4-5 fav); 2, Half Tone (14-1); 3, Bold Frontier (9-2). 5 ran. 1¾l, 2½l. T Naughton. Tote: £1.60; £1.20, £1.70. DF: £7.90. CSF: £9.97.

Remainder of meeting abandoned — course waterlogged

Placepot: £5.70.

Yesterday's meeting at Chepstow was called off because of waterlogging.

☐ Pat Flynn, the Irish trainer, produced two Cheltenham Festival prospects at Leopardstown yesterday when Aries Girl and Lady's Vision comfortably won their respective hurdle races. Flynn has a strong team for the Festival, as he also handles the Champion Hurdle hopeful, Montelado.

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NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER
1.00 Cellidh Boy. 1.30 Mr Knitwit. 2.00 Jimmy The Gillie. 2.30 Hunters' Heaven. 3.00 Valiant Warrior. 3.30 Polishing.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.30 NOYAN.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 .... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD SIS

1.00 GROUSE HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,225: 3m) (6 runners)
1 1P2-12U GALLATEEN 19 (BF,F,G,S) (E Madden) G Richards 6-12-0 .... A Dobbin 93
2 1P60-16 OVER THE DEEL 38 (C,D,F,G,S) (G Tobitt) J Johnson 8-11-5 .... N Doughty 96
3 2242-43 BLUFF KNOLL 30 (CD,F,G,S) (R Brewis) R Brewis 11-11-1 .... G Harker [illegible]
4 51-4021 KUSHBALOO 58 (D,F,G) (R Green) C Parker 9-10-13 .... B Storey 94
5 F1U1-20 STRONG SOUND 43 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs H Scotto) P Cheesbrough 7-10-8 ... K Johnson 96
6 4-231U2 CEILIDH BOY 23 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs J Goodfellow 8-10-0 .... Richard Guest 95

BETTING: 3-1 Gallateen, 7-2 Strong Sound, 4-1 Ceilidh Boy, 5-1 Kushbaloo, Over The Deel, 6-1 Bluff Knoll.

1993: ARTHUR'S MINSTREL 6-10-1 L Wyer (11-4) P Cheesbrough 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

GALLATEEN 1l 2nd of 7 to Morgans Harbour in handicap chase at Kelso (3m 4f, good) with BLUFF KNOLL (12lb better off) 4l 3rd and CEILIDH BOY unseating his rider at 1st.
OVER THE DEEL beat Pims Gunner 2½l in 4-runner handicap chase at Wetherby (3m 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start. KUSHBALOO beat Zam Bee 1l in 4-runner handicap chase at Kelso (2m 6f 110yd, good to firm). STRONG SOUND 7l 2nd of 8 to Beachy Head in handicap chase at Wetherby (3m 4f 110yd, good). CEILIDH BOY 1¼l 2nd of 6 to Sir Peter Lely in handicap chase at Edinburgh (3m, good to firm)
Selection: BLUFF KNOLL

1.30 WOODCOCK NOVICES HURDLE
(£3,243: 2m 4f) (17 runners)
1 /22/P-11 MR KNITWIT 39 (D,G) (Mackinnon Mills) G Richards 7-11-6 .... A Dobbin 94
2 501212 NOYAN 9 (D,BF,F,G) (C McGhie) L Lungo 4-11-6 .... T Reed [illegible]
3 350-615 MONTRAVE 54 (D,G) (D St Clair) P Monteith 5-11-3 .... J Railton 80
4 40-0054 BELIEVE IT 28 (Mrs J Waggott) N Waggott 5-11-0 .... Miss T Waggott 64
5 000-00 BILLY BUOYANT 48 (Mrs F Walton) F Walton 5-11-0 .... B Storey 54
6 00- BUYERS DREAM 256 (C Hull) J Hellens 4-11-0 .... A Larnach (3) –
7 0/3052-6 EASBY JOKER 12 (S) (G Orchard) S Kettlewell 6-11-0 .... R Garritty 81
8 3- ELLIOTTS CHARM 452 (D Fulton) J Johnson 6-11-0 .... N Doughty 62
9 GEMIKOSIX 63F (Mrs K Walton) Mrs K Walton 4-11-0 .... J Callaghan –
10 6- GENAWAY 294 (R McDonald) R McDonald 5-11-0 .... R Hodge –
11 GRASSINGTON (R Haggas) P Beaumont 5-11-0 .... C Hawkins –
12 0/2/ HIGHLAND PARK 1209 (R Craggs) R Craggs 8-11-0 .... N Smith –
13 HOBKIRK (W Amos) B Mactaggart 5-11-0 .... P Niven –
14 2-53 INTO THE WEST 19 (J Mason) T Carr 5-11-0 .... M Dwyer 88
15 0-55 BLOOMING SPRING 9 (Mrs J McGregor) Mrs D Thomson 5-10-9 .... L O'Hara 63
16 403F-00 MISTROY 23 (D Teasdale) Miss M Milligan 4-10-9 .... L Wyer 91
17 UP- ROMAN SWORD 327 (D Nicholson) S Leadbetter 6-10-9 .... G Cahill (7) –

BETTING: 7-4 Mr Knitwit, 3-1 Noyan, 7-1 Montrave, 8-1 Into The West, 10-1 Easby Joker, 12-1 Elliotts Charm, 16-1 Billy Buoyant, 20-1 Blooming Spring, Grassington, 25-1 others.

1993: MORCELI 5-11-0 D J Moffatt (4-6 fav) J Johnson 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

MR KNITWIT beat Flapjack Lad 8l in 8-runner novice handicap hurdle at Aintree (2m 4f, good). NOYAN 1¾l 2nd of 9 to Trump in handicap hurdle at Edinburgh (3m, good). MONTRAVE beat Oat Couture 7l in 11-runner novice hurdle at Ayr (2m 4f, good) on penultimate start with BELIEVE IT tailed off 9th. EASBY JOKER best effort to date when 1½l 2nd of 16 to Coqui Lane in novice hurdle at Kelso (2m 6f 110yd, good to soft). ELLIOTTS CHARM 10¾l 3rd of 13 to Westholme in novice hurdle at Kelso (2m 2f, good). INTO THE WEST 4¼l 3rd of 16 to Cutthroat Kid in novice hurdle at Doncaster (2m 4f, good).
Selection: NOYAN (nap)

2.00 NORTHUMBERLAND NOVICES CHASE
(£6,808: 2m 110yd) (7 runners)
1 2-41F11 STRONG DEEL 32 (C,F,G,S) (J Stephenson) W Reed 6-11-12 .... T Reed 87
2 34-1133 SPANISH FAIR 11 (CD,F,G) (Mrs S Bramall) Mrs S Bramall 6-11-9 .... J Burke 82
3 51P-3 EXCISE MAN 53 (G) (Mrs F Walton) F Walton 6-11-2 .... Mr A Robson –
4 503-503 HICKSONS CHOICE 37 (J Wade) J Wade 6-11-2 .... K Jones 64
5 3P6203- HIGH ALLTITUDE 258 (G,S) (B Basey) G Moore 6-11-2 .... N Doughty –
6 0220-33 JIMMY THE GILLIE 18 (F,G,S) (N Robinson) S Christian 8-11-2 .... G Upton [illegible]
7 4-PF5FP TEMPLERAINEY 9 (G) (Lady Harris) Mrs S Bradburne 6-11-2 .... J Railton 80

BETTING: 9-4 Strong Deel, 5-2 High Alltitude, 3-1 Spanish Fair, 4-1 Jimmy The Gillie, 10-1 Hicksons Choice, 25-1 Excise Man, 33-1 Templerainey.

1993: NATIVE MISSION 6-11-7 M Dwyer (10-11 fav) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

STRONG DEEL beat Reluctant Suitor 4l in 6-runner novice chase here (2m 4f, good) with SPANISH FAIR (3lb better off) 5l 3rd. SPANISH FAIR 12l 3rd of 9 to Aytbak in novice chase at Catterick (2m, good to soft). HICKSONS CHOICE 3½l 3rd of 5 to Golden Isle in novice chase at Catterick (2m, good). HIGH ALLTITUDE 5½l 3rd of 9 to Surrey Dancer in handicap hurdle at Ayr (2m, good). JIMMY THE GILLIE 26l 3rd of 6 to Konvekta King in novice chase at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good).
Selection: STRONG DEEL

2.30 PARTRIDGE JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE
(3-Y-O: £2,970: 2m 110yd) (20 runners)
1 31 DOCKMASTER 11 (D,S) (J Gordon) Miss M Milligan 11-3 .... L Wyer 95
2 14 LOMOND MIST 20 (D,S) (Mrs M Bard) J Johnson 11-3 .... N Doughty 98
3 0 CURIE CRUSADER 37 (Three Plus One Racing) M Dods 10-12 .... R Hodge –
4 ETERNAL CITY (R Tyrer) G Richards 10-12 .... A Dobbin –
5 HUNTERS' HEAVEN 72F (A Wharton) J Mackie 10-12 .... J Callaghan –
6 KAITAK 54F (F Carr) J Carr 10-12 .... M Dwyer –
7 KING OF SHOW 69F (M Boyd) R Allan 10-12 .... B Storey –
8 LIGHTNING QUEST 102F (J Pickard) J Wainwright 10-12 .... P Midgley (3) –
9 6 LIVIO 23 (J Glass) L Lungo 10-12 .... T Reed –
10 0 MILL CITY 11 (S Corlett) Miss L Siddall 10-12 .... A Thornton –
11 MUSIC BLITZ 51F (Mrs D Thomson) Mrs D Thomson 10-12 .... D Bentley (3) –
12 3U2 NINE PIPES 32 (Nine Pipes Racing) J Birkett 10-12 .... L O'Hara [illegible]
13 30 NOORAN 46 (C Whillans) A Whillans 10-12 .... M Moloney 83
14 MUVEEN 107F (R Graham) Mrs J Jordan 10-12 .... S Taylor (7) –
15 4 PEPITIST 25 (The Gemini Partnership 2) M Hammond 10-12 .... Mr C Bonner (5) 80
16 PERSUASIVE TALENT (Exors of Mr R Lamb) D Lamb 10-12 .... Mr A Manners (7) –
17 TYRED N'EXHAUSTED (M Edgar) L Lungo 10-12 .... F Perratt (5) –
18 6 COPPERHURST 33 (W Kemp) W Kemp 10-7 .... S McDougall 69
19 46 MICROLITE 11 (B) (J Brown) M Hammond 10-7 .... P Niven 93
20 SALLYOREALLY 63F (W Storey) W Storey 10-7 .... K Johnson –

BETTING: 9-4 Lomond Mist, 11-4 Dockmaster, 6-1 Hunters' Heaven, 10-1 King Of Show, Microlite, Pepitist, 12-1 Eternal City, Kaitak, 14-1 Livio, 16-1 others.

1993: NATIVE WORTH 10-7 P Williams (25-1) J Jefferson 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

DOCKMASTER beat Muzrak 2l in 16-runner novice hurdle at Nottingham (2m, good to soft). LOMOND MIST 17½l 4th of 9 to Veryvel in novice hurdle at Haydock (2m, heavy) with LIVIO 30l 7th. Earlier beat Golden Hello 4l in 12-runner novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m, good to soft).
KING OF SHOW fairly useful handicapper on flat, putting up best effort when 2¼l 3rd of 16 to Top Guide in maiden at Kempton (1m, good to firm). NINE PIPES 2l 2nd of 8 to Zambezer in novice hurdle over course and distance (good) with MICROLITE 7½l 4th. PEPITIST 13l 4th of 10 to Uncle Doug in novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m, good). SALLYOREALLY 6l 4th of 9 in maiden at Yarmouth (7f, firm).
Selection: NINE PIPES

3.00 GAMEBIRD HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,193: 2m 4f) (8 runners)
1 P5-3444 SOUTHERN MINSTREL 25 (D,F,G,S) (B Hathaway) P Cheesbrough 11-12-0 M Dwyer 96
2 1121-32 VALIANT WARRIOR 35 (D,BF,F,G) (P Sellars) M Hammond 6-11-2 D Bentley (3) [illegible]
3 420-321 STRONG APPROACH 12 (CD,G,S) (Mrs R Carr) J Charlton 9-10-13 .... A Dobbin 94
4 33-0524 ABSALOR 18 (B,F,G) (Lady Harris) Mrs S Bradburne 10-10-2 .... R Murphy (7) 91
5 P20-213 SUPPOSIN 25 (D,G,S) (Mrs S Smith) Mrs S Smith 6-10-2 .... Richard Guest 93
6 F16040 STEPFASTER 27 (D,F,G) (Mrs A Wyatt) Miss L Siddall 9-10-2 .... A Thornton 91
7 4P-543P BARKISLAND 18 (D,G,S) (J Veitch) P Beaumont 10-10-0 .... J Callaghan 98
8 9/01355 OLE OLE 11 (F,S) (Mrs E Moscrop) Mrs E Moscrop 8-10-0 .... K Johnson 87

Long handicap: Barkisland 9-10, Ole Ole 9-7

BETTING: 2-1 Strong Approach, 9-4 Valiant Warrior, 9-2 Supposin, 6-1 Southern Minstrel, 8-1 Absalor, 16-1 Barkisland, Stepfaster, 20-1 Ole Ole.

1993: ARMAGRET 8-12-0 L O'Hara (2-1) B Wilkinson 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

SOUTHERN MINSTREL best recent effort when 3½l 4th of 8 to Don't Tell The Wife in handicap chase at Uttoxeter (2m 5l, good). VALIANT WARRIOR ½l 2nd of 4 to Deep Decision in handicap chase at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good) with SUPPOSIN (2lb better off) 8l 3rd. STRONG APPROACH beat Down The Road 3l in handicap chase at Catterick (2m 3l, good to soft). ABSALOR 24l 4th of 10 to Timanfaya in claiming chase at Edinburgh (2m 4f, good) with BARKISLAND pulled up. SUPPOSIN beat Granville Water 2l in 6-runner handicap chase at Nottingham (2m 5f 110yd, good). STEPFASTER best recent effort when beating SUPPOSIN (3lb worse off) 4l in handicap chase at Carlisle (2m 4f 110yd, good).
Selection: STEPFASTER

3.30 PHEASANT HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,738: 2m 4f) (8 runners)
1 P/0P/ SAYPAREE 982 (D,F,G,S) (E Scarth) W Reed 9-11-10 .... T Reed –
2 1400-3P POLISHING 25 (CD,F,G,S) (J Gordon) M Hammond 7-11-5 .... N Doughty [illegible]
3 11-564U ONE FOR THE POT 12 (C,F,G,S) (P Davies) Mrs A Naughton 9-11-0 J Burke (3) 97
4 42/0124- CAITHNESS CLOUD 257 (S) (R Green) C Parker 6-10-4 .... B Storey 90
5 0F-0434 PLUMBOB 9 (G) (Nenmore Estates Ltd) Mrs S Bradburne 5-10-0 R Murphy (7) 94
6 0-3F54F FORWARD GLEN 18 (CD,F) (P Cheesbrough) P Cheesbrough 7-10-0 A Dobbin 93
7 F546- THE MOSSES 256P (F,S) (C Sample) W Sample 9-10-0 .... L O'Hara –
8 PP/PP0-P KERRY TO CLARE 37 (T Gibson) T Gibson 8-10-0 .... Mr M Coglan –

Long handicap: Plumbob 9-12, Forward Glen 9-9, The Mosses 9-2, Kerry To Clare 7-4.

BETTING: 7-4 Caithness Cloud, 5-2 Polishing, 7-2 One For The Pot, 5-1 Forward Glen, 8-1 Plumbob, 25-1 Sayparee, 33-1 The Mosses, 50-1 Kerry To Clare.

1993: NORTHANTS 7-10-4 R Hodge (5-4 fav) W Storey 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

SAYPAREE pulled up lame in hurdle won by Don Valentino at Chepstow (2m, good) in April 1992. Very smart handicap hurdler at best. POLISHING pulled up 4 out in novice chase won by Scotton Banks at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good). Best recent effort over hurdles when beating Haso 4l in 9-runner handicap hurdle here (3m, good) in March. ONE FOR THE POT 26l 4th of 9 to Moving Out in handicap hurdle (2m 4f, good) on penultimate start. CAITHNESS CLOUD 5l 4th of 17 to Ambleside Harvest in handicap hurdle at Ayr (2m 4f, good). PLUMBOB 16¾l 4th of 9 to Trump in handicap hurdle at Edinburgh (3m, good). FORWARD GLEN 23l 4th of 9 to Ali's Alibi in novice chase at Kelso (3m 1f, good) on penultimate start.
Selection: CAITHNESS CLOUD

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Dods	3	9	33.3	Richard Guest	3	9	33.3
C Parker	4	14	28.6	P Niven	22	112	19.6
P Cheesbrough	9	33	27.3	A Thornton	3	16	18.8
G Moore	12	55	21.8	T Reed	16	90	17.8
J Johnson	15	89	16.9	L Wyer	12	69	17.4
W Reed	6	37	16.2	N Doughty	5	35	14.3

☐ Jodami, the 1993 Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, is to reappear at Prestbury Park on Monday after his fall at Wetherby two days ago. He will be ridden by Mark Dwyer in the Cheltenham Sponsorship Club Handicap Chase. "I was perfectly happy with him until he he went through the top of the third-last fence at Wetherby," Dwyer said. "I'm hoping he can restore his confidence at Cheltenham."

STRATFORD

THUNDERER
12.40 Fils De Cresson. 1.10 Captain Khedive. 1.40 A Suitable Girl. 2.10 Cokenny Boy. 2.40 Evening Rain. 3.10 Buckelight. 3.40 IDIOT'S LADY (nap).

GOING: HEAVY (7.30AM INSPECTION) SIS

12.40 EBF NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(Qualifier: Div I: £1,926: 2m 110yd) (9 runners)
101 0- CORRIB SONG 242 T Forster 5-11-0 .... R Farrant –
102 555- DOVETTO 286 R Price 5-11-0 .... P McLoughlin (5) 82
103 FILS DE CRESSON A Turnell 4-11-0 .... S McNeill –
104 00- FIXTURESSECRETARY 256 D Nicholson 5-11-0 ... A Maguire –
105 /44- GWEEBARRA BAY 231 G Ham 5-11-0 .... B Powell –
106 -00U JACK A HOY 7 (B) R Brotherton 4-11-0 .... L Harvey –
107 90-0 LODESTONE LAD 9 R Dickin 4-11-0 .... D Meredith (3) [illegible]
108 0-06 HYDEMILLA 16 Mrs T Pilkington 4-10-9 .... D Bridgwater –
109 60/ LUDOVICIANA 615 Mrs J Renfree-Barons 5-10-9 ... R Greene –

2-1 Lodestone Lad, 7-2 Fixturessecretary, 5-1 Fils De Cresson, 6-1 Gweebarra Bay, 8-1 Dovetto, Ludoviciana, 14-1 others.

1.10 EBF NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(Qualifier: Div II: £1,926: 2m 110yd) (9)
201 RF11 CAPTAIN KHEDIVE 20 (D,F,G,S) P Hobbs 6-11-10 G McCourt [illegible]
202 P CHACER'S IMP 56 N Twiston-Davies 5-11-0 ... D Bridgwater –
203 165 DOCTOR DOCTOR 28 (F) R Simpson 5-11-0 Mr E Williams (7) –
204 0 FEVER PITCH 18 R Frost 4-11-0 .... J Frost –
205 2-44 LIEN DE FAMILLE 11 (S) J Queen 4-11-0 .... A Maguire 98
206 0P ROUND OF DRINKS 7 H Oliver 4-11-0 .... Jacqui Oliver –
207 35 TENNESSEE KING 20 A Foster 4-11-0 .... N Williamson 94
208 00-6 VOLCANIC ROC 23 G Davies 4-11-0 .... B Powell –
209 2-84 TIP THE DOVE 8 (S) C Price 5-10-9 .... R Davis 74

4-6 Captain Khedive, 7-2 Lien De Famille, 4-1 Tennessee King, 8-1 Doctor Doctor, Tip The Dove, 20-1 Volcanic Roc, 25-1 Round Of Drinks, 33-1 others.

1.40 BRAN TUB SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,024: 2m 110yd) (10)
301 F0-5 PRINCESS TATEUM 27F (D,G) Mrs M McCourt 4-11-10 .... G McCourt 97
302 005 COALISLAND 30 R Ingram 4-10-10 .... A Maguire –
303 P600 WATER DIVINER 15 (D,F) K Wingrove 4-10-5 .... J Ryan [illegible]
304 04-P WALID'S PRINCESS 25 R Frost 4-10-3 .... J Frost 98
305 5450 A SUITABLE GIRL 29 D Williams 3-10-1 .... M A Fitzgerald 92
306 PP-0 BACKSTABBER 18 Miss S Wilton 4-10-0 .... T Eley (3) –
307 6F3- OUR NIKKI 266 P Rodford 4-10-0 .... S Burrough 90
308 200 PASSING PLAYER 20 F Jordan 3-10-0 .... J Lodder 89
309 2360 LORCANJO 48 D Casey 3-10-0 .... B Powell 84
310 4P6 CA IRA 34 R Emery 3-10-0 .... P Ward (7) –

9-4 Princess Tateum, 7-2 Coalisland, 5-1 A Suitable Girl, 6-1 Our Nikki, 8-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: T Forster, 13 winners from 60 runners, 21.7%; P Hobbs, 13 from 64, 20.3%; Mrs J Retter, 4 from 20, 20.0%; D Nicholson, 12 from 68, 17.6%; A Turnell, 4 from 23, 17.4%; N Twiston-Davies, 9 from 57, 15.8%.

JOCKEYS: A Maguire, 23 winners from 93 rides, 24.7%; Peter Hobbs, 10 from 45, 22.2%; G McCourt, 8 from 46, 17.4%; R Greene, 3 from 20, 15.0%; M A Fitzgerald, 8 from 57, 14.0%.

2.10 J H ROWE CHALLENGE TROPHY
(Handicap chase: £4,260: 3m) (4)
401 4-52 MENEBUCK 55 (F,G,S) Lady Herries 8-11-10 .... E Murphy 97
402 3/P TRAVELLING WRONG 43 (D,S) D Nicholson 8-11-9 A Maguire –
403 2113 COKENNY BOY 18 (D,F,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 9-11-4 W Marston 98
404 4500 SARAVILLE 41 (B,CD,F,G,S) F Jordan 7-11-3 .... J Lodder [illegible]

Evens Cokenny Boy, 6-4 Menebuck, 8-1 Travelling Wrong, 8-1 Saraville.

2.40 VIVIAN STREET HANDICAP CHASE
(Amateur riders: £2,998: 2m 1f 110yd) (5)
501 -443 BROUGHTON MANOR 20 (BF,F,G,S) Mrs J Retter 9-12-0 .... J Culloty (7) [illegible]
502 622F EVENING RAIN 2 (BF,F,G,S) R Hodges 8-10-3 .... Miss S Mitchell (7) 92
503 P/P DIBLOOM 8 (S) R Simpson 6-10-0 .... Miss P Jones (5) –
504 0-06 MAMALAMA 16 (F) B Llewellyn 6-10-0 .... Miss E J Jones (7) –
505 2-43 MUSIC BOX 29 (BF,G,S) R Hodges 8-10-0 .... D Parker (5) 88

11-10 Broughton Manor, 6-4 Evening Rain, 10-1 Mamalama, 14-1 Dibloom, Music Box.

3.10 DARK STRANGERS NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,323: 2m 5f 110yd) (12)
601 U0-0 BUCKELIGHT 8 T Forster 6-11-10 .... R Farrant [illegible]
602 P2-P COLONIAL OFFICE 7 Graham Richards 8-11-5 Mr M Rimell (7) 90
603 6-05 ESSDOUBLEYOU 7 Mrs J Renfree-Barons 6-10-10 ... R Greene –
604 63-5 BROMPTON BERTIE 76 D Crappell 5-10-7 .... N Williamson –
605 0-F0 TINA'S MISSILE 26 (V) R Lee 7-10-6 .... A Maguire –
606 00-F LACURVA 15 M Wilkinson 6-10-5 .... G McCourt –
607 1F3- LLACCA SAM 240P (S) M Eckley 7-10-4 .... R Davis –
608 3352 ERLEMO 15 W Clay 5-10-2 .... J Lodder –
609 PPF KINGOFTHESWINGERS 12 Miss S Wilton 7-10-2 ... T Eley (3) –
610 U6P5 RIP THE CALICO 28 (F) K Wingrove 6-10-2 .... J Ryan –
611 406U STERLING BUCK 28 G Yardley 7-10-1 .... W McFarland –
612 P0U0 ZUB ZUB 16 J Pickering 7-10-0 .... W Worthington –

3-1 Lacurva, 4-1 Essdoubleyou, 6-1 Erlemo, Llacca Sam, 7-1 Buckelight, 12-1 Tina's Missile, Colonial Office, 14-1 others.

3.40 GOOD RESOLUTIONS NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,192: 2m 6f 110yd) (16)
1 -312 KING LUCIFER 26 (CD,S) D Nicholson 5-11-4 .... A Maguire 94
2 D/4 ARCTIC RED 48 D Nicholson 7-10-12 .... R Massey (5) 71
3 -P6U BALLYHAMAGE 23 J Evans 6-10-12 .... Mr R Johnson (7) 85
4 2326 HUGE MISTAKE 11 (G) N Twiston-Davies 5-10-12 D Bridgwater [illegible]
5 JULTARA J Edwards 5-10-12 .... N Williamson –
6 65 LORD NITROGEN 13F R Emery 4-10-12 .... P Ward (7) 73
7 453- ORSWELL LAD 268 P Hobbs 5-10-12 .... Peter Hobbs 82
8 04/ PAPER DANCE 891F P Murphy 6-10-12 .... E Murphy –
9 0320 PISTOL RIVER 12 N Walker 4-10-12 .... B Powell 83
10 003- RED PARADE 263 (S) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 6-10-12 R Greene –
11 0-33 SO HOPEFUL 9 Mrs J Renfree-Barons 5-10-12 .... G Earle 87
12 00-2 IDIOT'S LADY 80 Mrs J Pitman 5-10-7 .... W Marston 87
13 0-00 IZACOMIN 18 D Geraghty 5-10-7 .... J A McCarthy –
14 P0P- SLIEVE LEAGUE 277 J Webber 5-10-7 .... R Bellamy –
15 0-00 STORMY PETREL 11 P Walwyn 5-10-7 .... M A Fitzgerald –
16 00P VIOLET ROSE 25 J Spearing 4-10-7 .... Miss T Spearing (7) –

3-1 King Lucifer, 7-2 Idiot's Lady, 5-1 Huge Mistake, 6-1 So Hopeful, 8-1 Jultara, 10-1 Arctic Red, 14-1 others.

Blinkered first time

NEWCASTLE: 2.30 Microlite STRATFORD: 2.10 Saraville 3.10 Tina's Missile.

FILM page 27
Happily thinking big on a shoestring, Louis Malle remains the rebel without a pause

ARTS

TOMORROW
It was the way she told them — why Beatrice Lillie was the funniest woman in the world

CLIVE BARDA/PERFORMING ARTS LIBRARY

"The stories of gross indulgences, the manipulative emotionalism of his music-making, had led me to expect a monster," says Richard Morrison of Leonard Bernstein. "What I found was wisdom, warmth, sincerity"

The dying of the light

Richard Morrison went to Rome in search of a story.

He left it stunned by the poetry in an old man's soul

On that June afternoon in 1989, Rome is hit by a thunderstorm of operatic dimensions. Inside the concert hall, the air is as steamy as a sauna. As the orchestra tunes up, a leaky roof suddenly deposits rain on the principal oboist. There is much shouting, for the First Law of Orchestras states that the most highly strung personality in any ensemble belongs to the principal oboist. Great music-making seems a long way away.

Then something remarkable happens. Into the auditorium rushes a crowd of chattering students. But they do not progress in the normal way. The ones in front flounder backwards, and consequently crash into cello cases and other obstacles. The ones at the side are turned inwards towards a hunched, white-haired figure, and jostle for position like middle-distance runners nearing the last lap.

When the crowd reaches the podium, the white-haired one disengages himself. The musicians suddenly remember that they are the Orchestra of the Accademia di Santa Cecilia, and that they have waited all year for this encounter, notwithstanding the fact that this is billed only as an "open rehearsal".

"Bravo, maestro," they shout in greeting. "Warrgh!" replies Leonard Bernstein in a cry of pure, all-American locker-room exhortation. "Let's go, guys!" he roars. And scarcely do his adoring students have time to scramble for seats and open their miniature scores than Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony has raced off in a mingled frenzy of Bernstein angst and Roman passion.

It is magnificent but short-lived. At the climax of the first movement a vital clarinet entry is missed. High tragedy turns to low farce in an instant. Bernstein's craggy, creased face — the legacy of half-a-century of booze, cigarettes and 4am bedtimes — feigns incredulity and pain. He cups a hand to his ear and cries: "Is there life before death in the woodwind universe?" The unfortunate clarinettist stares grimly at his shoes, shaking his head like a man who has put his life's savings on the wrong horse.

But Bernstein restarts the movement and brings it to an exultant conclusion. Because this is an open rehearsal he has been wired for sound. Every grunt, growl, wheeze and "pah, pah-pah PAH PAH!" booms through the hall. The rehearsal ends in triumph. "Warrgh!" he shouts again as he cuts off the final chord with a double-handed axe-swing of his baton. His podium is again surrounded by his swooning students.

The day I met . . . LEONARD BERNSTEIN

Is this the moment for me to edge forward? I have been sent to get an interview with Bernstein in advance of his *Candide* being performed in London. No, more than that: I have been assured that the maestro has allocated an hour in his schedule for *The Times*.

False security. From my arrival in Rome I have encountered wave after obstructive wave of Bernstein acolytes, managers, PR advisers, disciples. No, I am told, the maestro hasn't forgotten you. But you must realise that he has many demands on his time, that these days (he has just turned 70) interviews don't matter a damn to him, that he is ill and shouldn't be doing any of this anyway (that part is clearly true) . . .

It occurs to me that Bernstein probably knows nothing of any interview arrangement, and that the likelihood of my returning to London empty-handed is distressingly high. Desperation breeds pushiness. I plunge into the scrum as it pours into the maestro's dressing room.

Bernstein is sitting at a table, signing scores. He is naked to the waist, his torso steaming like a racehorse's. His manager, the ferociously protective Harry Kraut, is towelling his back while passing him contracts for inspection. Neither this nor the cigarette that Bernstein clamps between his lips stops the maestro's flow of sardonic humour. His eyes are screwed up against the smoke, but they glint. Even in his dressing-room he loves an audience.

Gradually, the students disappear. I hang back, still unnoticed. Bernstein stops giving a show, and exchanges grunted monosyllables with Kraut. Then the manager goes. The maestro suddenly looks ill and tired, but he starts crooning to himself. And this is the weird thing: the tune starts as the twisting theme in the opening movement of Tchaikovsky's Fourth . . . and then slides into "Maria" from *West Side Story*.

Then Bernstein sees me. Panic paralyses my brain. What do I say? I decide on the saucy approach. "So that's where you got that tune from," I blurt out, with what I hope is an endearing grin.

Momentarily, I think I have blown it. "Christ, Harry, who the hell is this?" Bernstein shouts after his departing manager. Before Kraut can come back and throw me out, I gabble my explanation. "I work for *The Times* in London." I stutter. "I've been waiting two days to talk to you about *Candide*."

Bernstein pauses, then switches on a broad smile. "Oh, *The Times*," he says in a mocking English accent. "*Second-finest crossword in the world.*" I clutch at this straw of casual conversation. "Really? Who has the best?" "*The Listener*," Bernstein replies. "Never miss it."

Kraut returns. If he is crestfallen that a journalist has penetrated the inner sanctum, he conceals it graciously. I am invited to Bernstein's hotel that evening.

The hotel is near the top of the Spanish Steps. Viewed from the roof-garden of his penthouse suite, Rome, now cloudless and serene, lies sparkling like some ancient treasure.

I expect to be bullied verbally, or dazzled with scathing wit. Instead, I find him relaxed, courteous, and seemingly without guile. I am taken aback. My diligent reading of the vast Bernstein literature had not prepared me for this. Nor had I anticipated how our conversation might start.

"Who's the greatest 20th-century poet in the English language?" Bernstein asks, his voice croaky and adenoidal.

"Oh, I dunno," I falter. "Eliot?"

The conductor shakes his head, and looks out across the glorious city with a curiously wistful expression. "As I get older and sleep less and less, I read Larkin," he says. "I know everything he wrote." And, to my astonishment, this quintessential American extrovert begins to declaim line after line of the mournful Englishman's *subtle, reticent poems*.

And so it goes on. I never do get him to say anything very useful about *Candide*. Actually, I never really try. I take no notes; I am literally awe-struck. Bernstein moves from Larkin to Frost, then Auden. He seems to know by heart *every poem written in English* this century.

That extraordinary discourse transforms my view of him. The prying biographies, the wild stories of gross indulgences, the manipulative emotionalism of his music-making — all these had led me to expect a monster, not a man. What I find, however, is wisdom, warmth, sincerity. And something else, too. There is an overwhelming sadness in his look as he watches the light fade on the Eternal City.

Why? He has achieved so much; been loved by so many. But perhaps, like his great hero, Mahler, he has also spent too long staring into the abyss, the inescapable darkness that suffocates rational thought in the sleepless hours before dawn. Suddenly, the reason why he conducts as he does, laying bare every anguish, becomes apparent to me. He is exorcising the demons of the night. No wonder he finds a kindred comfort in Larkin.

I don't delude myself that Bernstein remembered my name ten minutes after I left. But when he died 16 months later, I mourned him like a close friend.

THEATRE

Young wonders

Whistle Down The Wind
Riverside Studios, W6

A PERSON would have to be an unreformed Scrooge to resist the charm of this Christmas-time musical, developed for the National Youth Music Theatre from Mary Hayley Bell's novel and the screenplay Willis Hall and Keith Waterhouse wrote for the film.

The goodness of children is contrasted with the hypocrisy and selfishness of their parents, and while the assumptions of these Lancashire youngsters in the early 1950s now appear antediluvian, their feelings are expressed credibly and unmawkishly.

Three children find an escaped convict hiding in their father's barn and take him to be Jesus Christ. Together with all but one of the other village children, they feed and protect him until the school bully, a Judas figure, betrays him to the grown-ups. Drumbeats roll as parent after parent rushes to "save" their offspring from danger, but the children recognise that the real danger ahead of them is growing up to be as unthinkingly horrid as their elders.

Richard Taylor's music and lyrics imaginatively splice together the bickering and the beauty, and Russell Labey's direction (he is also co-adapter, with Richard Taylor) marshals the cast into arresting tableaux of vociferous energy and peace.

Where Taylor introduces music into the dialogue scenes, it provides an emotional undertow and particularly forms thematic links between the songs. Some of these present the young singers with considerable complexities of timing, and one of the joys of the evening comes in listening to the different vocal lines followed by the three leading children: Helen Power's cleartoned Cathy, Frances Hardcastle's Nan, and Andrew Buckley as a husky-voiced Charley.

As the convict, Alex Knight has difficulty reaching his high notes, but convincingly shows how the children bring about his salvation.

Perhaps the most remarkable achievement of Labey and Taylor is the creation of a world as seen by children. Of all the Christmas shows I have seen this year, it is this that has brought me the greatest happiness.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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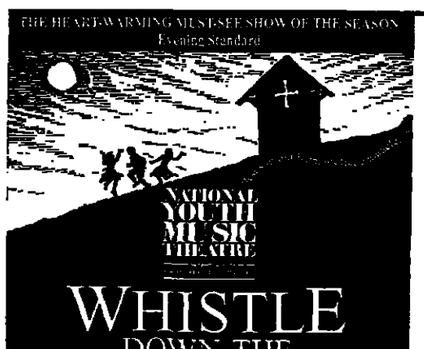

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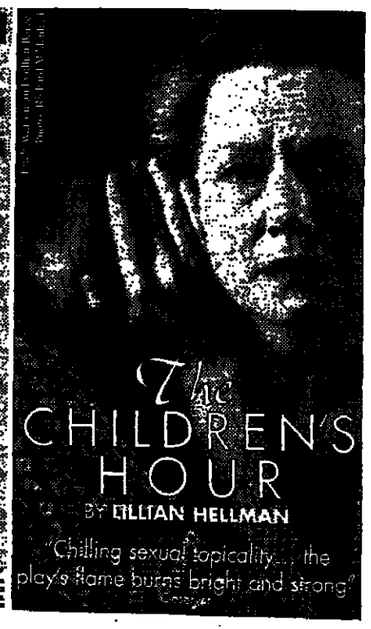

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BY LILLIAN HELLMAN
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A stormy Malle content

One of France's most controversial directors talks to **David Robinson** about the New Wave, his new film, and some old misconceptions

SALLY SOAMES

Louis Malle: "I don't want to please everybody. I don't see why you should do that"

At 62 Louis Malle is grey, trim, articulate, inquiring. He conveys an impression of being at least reasonably happy with the direction his life is taking. In the history books he is always identified with the French New Wave of the early 1960s; but at this distance the director whose latest film is released this week does not feel his association with the movement was all that close.

"I had started in films a bit earlier than the others," he says. "After studying at Idhec [the French film school] I worked as assistant to Jacques Cousteau on *Le Monde du silence* and to Robert Bresson on *Un Condamné à mort s'est échappé*. I directed *Ascenseur pour l'Echafaud* in 1957 and *Les Amants* in 1958."

The eroticism of *Les Amants* may seem mild enough now, but in 1958 it was a *succès de scandale*, launching a whole new young generation of film-makers, as well as makng a star of Jeanne Moreau.

"I certainly never felt associated with the more extreme tactics of the New Wave — the 'politique des auteurs', for instance, by which they separated the film establishment into those directors who were approved and those who were condemned absolutely," Malle says. "They wrecked a number of distinguished careers that way.

"The New Wave was really an association of convenience, a useful flag to march under for these young people starting on their careers. But you can see now that the New Wave directors all went their own ways pretty soon. People like Godard, Truffaut, Chabrol, Rohmer did not have very much in common, even though they continued to support one another."

None of that generation, though, has seemed more bewilderingly eclectic than Malle himself. He has continued to work as happily in documentary as in feature films, in America as in France. He filmed Moreau and Brigitte Bardot in *Viva Maria!*, a delicious period comedy set somewhere in Latin America, and Burt Lancaster in the elegiac *Atlantic City USA*.

In the 1960s a love affair with India resulted in the documentary feature *Calcutta* and the monumental seven-part television series *Phantom India*. He describes the films as a labour of love, and is still hurt by official Indian displeasure at his refusal to flatter the reality.

A number of his films are linked by a persistent theme: his passionate concern with adolescents still striving to discover their moral, political or personal identity. Already evident in the flighty early comedy *Zazie dans le Métro*, the baffling Alice-in-Wonderland fantasy *Black Moon* and his first American film, *Pretty Baby* — which had Brooke Shields as a 12-year-old New Orleans prostitute — the preoccupation is most developed in his trio of French-made masterpieces — *Souffle au Coeur*, *Lacombe Lucien* and *Au Revoir les enfants*.

It is no surprise to discover that of all his films he prefers the last. It was his most personal work, based on recollections of the war and the persecution of a Jewish schoolfellow by the Nazi occupiers.

> ❛ Malle avoids working with big budgets for major studios ❜

Malle rejects completely the persistent stories that French hostility to *Lacombe Lucien*, with its unsparing picture of wartime collaboration, resulted in his move to America and the making of *Pretty Baby*. Married since 1980 to the actress and photojournalist Candice Bergen, he has continued to work quite happily in France and America.

Wherever he works, he cherishes independence above all, and avoids working for big budgets and major studios. He admits that his most unsuccessful films — notably the mirthless *Crackers* (1984) — have been the result of accepting projects he has not initiated himself.

He was clearly very happy in the making of his new film, *Vanya on 42nd Street*, which reunited him with the two-man cast of his virtuoso 1981 conversation piece, *My Dinner With André*. Wallace Shawn plays Vanya, and André Gregory was the director of the original stage production which Malle translated to film — and appears on-screen in that role.

"David Mamet's version of the text makes Chekhov more contemporary and immediate, but without attempting to remove the original Russian context and references," Malle says. "Gregory directed it in New York in 1990. It was very remarkable, conceived, as you see it in the film, as if in the course of rehearsal. The audience sat all around the actors, and Gregory, as director, took part in the show.

"In this way Gregory used the special processes of theatre to deconstruct the play; but then the play and the characters take over again in a quite phenomenal way. The production was only performed intermittently over the four years; but during that time Robert Altman, Mike Nichols and myself all saw it and determined that somehow there had to be an attempt to capture this extraordinary effect on-screen.

"The picture has the huge advantage that it was made for very little money. Even if it is not always that comfortable making a film on such minimal resources, it gives you the freedom to make it as you want. You don't have to worry about previewing it for an audience of dropouts somewhere in the suburbs of Chicago, and then changing it if they don't like it as it is. That's what happens now with these films that cost $100 million: you have to please everybody.

"I don't want to please everybody. I'm not addressing everybody. I don't see why you should be obliged to do that."

Now Malle is excited by a new script, which is "connected with the book that Marlene Dietrich's daughter wrote about her mother. It is nothing like *Mommie Dearest*, the sensational book that Joan Crawford's daughter wrote about her. Dietrich's daughter loved her mother at the same time as she hated her.

"The script is set in Los Angeles about the time of Dietrich's split with her mentor Josef von Sternberg. It is all set in the space of 24 hours, and shot all around Los Angeles," Malle says.

"I like stories that involve real characters — Leni Riefenstahl figures in this one. It's a beautiful script. It could make a fascinating film."

● *Vanya on 42nd Street is released in Britain on Friday*

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Paul Haynes

LONDON

OPERA GALA NIGHT: Paul Wynne Griffiths conducts the **London Concert Orchestra** in a treat for opera-lovers, a varied programme of Mozart, Bizet, Verdi, Meyerbeer, Leoncavallo and Puccini. Featuring opera stars soprano Rosa Mannion, tenor Bonaventura Bottone and baritone Anthony Michaels-Moore as well as the English Concert Chorus and the Fanfare Trumpeters of the Band of the Welsh Guards.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm. Ⓢ

THE SNOWMAN: For more youthful music fans Howard Blake conducts the Wren Orchestra in the annual performance of *The Snowman*, based upon the award-winning animated film. Also on the programme the popular *Carnival of the Animals* and a musical game for all to join in.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). This afternoon, 3.30pm. Ⓢ

CHOPIN'S LAST FIVE YEARS: A superb performance of the complete piano works of Chopin by **Bernard d'Ascoli**, a most talented French pianist whose career has taken him around the globe and brought international recognition.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (071-935 2141). Tonight, 7.30pm. Ⓢ

WIMBLEDON: This version of the mice and pumpkins play *Cinderella* stars the eccentric talent of the one and only Roll Harris as Baron Hardup. Also featuring June Whitfield, Mark Curry and hard-hitting author Ian Botham.
Wimbledon Theatre, The Broadway, SW19 (081-540 0362). Tonight, 7.30pm, mat 2.30pm. Until Jan 29

ELSEWHERE

EDINBURGH: As a fitting climax to its 25th anniversary year and in tribute to its founder choreographer, the innovative Peter Darrell, the **Scottish Ballet** presents his best-loved work, *The Nutcracker*, which concentrates on the fantasy of the piece. Darrell is known for applying new dramatic treatments to classic works. Prima ballerina Noriko Ohara shares the role of Sugar Plum Fairy.
Festival Theatre, Nicolson Street, Edinburgh (031-529 6000). Tonight, 7.30pm. Until Jan 7 Ⓢ

BIRMINGHAM: The acclaimed **Mozart Festival Orchestra** returns to the Symphony Hall for **Mozart in Costume**. The programme of Mozart favourites, including Overture to *Così Fan Tutte*, *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* and *Clarinet Concerto*, is performed in elegant authentic 18th-century dress. Ian Watson conducts with clarinettist Jack Brymer.
Symphony Hall, Broad Street, Birmingham (021-212 3333). Tonight, 7.30pm. Ⓢ

NORTHAMPTON: This year's family entertainment is *Dick Wittington and his Wonderful Cat*. Timmy Mallett stars as Dick himself and is accompanied by the all-singing, all-dancing *Neighbours* star Gillian Blakeney.
Derngate Theatre, 19/21 Guildhall Road, Northampton (0604 24811). Tonight, 7.00pm, mat 2.00pm. Until Jan 22. Ⓢ

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: Byzantine Treasures from British Collections; Japanese Imperial Craftsmen ... **Hayward**: The Romantic Spirit in German Art 1790-1990 (071-928 3144) ... **National Portrait Gallery**: The Sitwells; Christina Rossetti (071-306 0055) ... **National Gallery**: The Young Michelangelo (071-839 3321) ... **Royal Academy**: The Painted Page (071-439 7438) ... **Serpentine**: Rebecca Horn (071-402 6075) ... **Tate**: Clore Gallery: Rebecca Horn (071-887 8000) ... **V & A**: Kalighat Indian Popular Painting 1800-1930, the Ironwork and Glass Galleries (071-938 8500) ... **Whitechapel**: Worlds in a Box (071-522 7888)

Tickets available at time of going to press; please check box office.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'**: The Fats Waller musical show, an evening of stomping, tapping, exuberant song and dance.
Tricycle, Kilburn High Rd, NW6 (071-328 1000). Now previewing Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Sats and Dec 28, 29, 4pm. Opens Jan 9. Ⓢ

CALAMITY JANE: The creative team behind last year's enjoyable *Sweet Charity* brings the Doris Day film musical to the stage. Phil Willmott directs for The Steam Industry.
BAC, Main Theatre, Lavender Hill, Battersea SW11 (071-223 2223). Tue-Sat, 8pm, Sun, 6pm. No perf Jan 2. Until Jan 21. Ⓢ

☐ **THE CHILDREN'S HOUR**: Clare Higgins and Harriet Walter as two schoolteachers accused of being lovers by a brat student. Lillian Hellman's powerful drama from 1934, directed by Howard Davies.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight, 7.30pm Ⓢ

■ **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**: John Mortimer's adaptation, Ian Judge's direction and Clive Francis's Scrooge make this a cosy evening, well removed from the moral fervour of Dickens.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight-Dec 29, 7.15pm. Again from Jan 4. Ⓢ

☐ **THE COURT JESTER**: Villainous John of Gaunt plots for the crown but is foiled by an energetic jester. Quite jolly, and lively performances.
Warehouse, Dingwall Rd, East Croydon (081-680 4060). Tue, 6.30pm, Wed-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 5pm. No perf Jan 2. Until Jan 29.

FLORA THE RED MENACE: Attractive staging of Kander & Ebb's first musical, a surprising story of an all-American girl toying with communism. Lucy Tregear stars in the role which was created by Liza Minnelli.
Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (081-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Sat, 4pm and Thurs from Dec 29, 2.30pm. No perf Jan 1,2. Until Feb 4 Ⓢ

☐ **THE LIBERTINE**: Stephen Jeffreys's excellent portrait of the life and times of the rakehell Earl of Rochester. In repertoire with *The Man of Mode*.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm, in rep. with *The Man of Mode* from Dec 13

■ **THREE TALL WOMEN**: Maggie Smith, Frances de la Tour and Anastasia Hille show how youthful high spirits petrify into grim old age. Superb performances in Edward Albee's powerful drama.
Wyndhams, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-369 1736). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

■ **THE THREEPENNY OPERA**: Tom Hollander sings Macheath in Kurt Weill's opera. Words by the team of writers customarily known as "Bertolt Brecht".
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham St, WC2 (071-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm Ⓢ

WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND: Three children find a fugitive in a barn and mistake him for Jesus. National Youth Music Theatre present the Russell Labey/Richard Taylor musical based on the popular film.
Riverside Studio 1, Crisp Rd, Hammersmith, W6 (081-741 2255). Dec 28-31, 7.30pm, mats Dec 26-31, 2.30pm. Until Dec 31. Ⓢ

LONG RUNNERS

◪ **Arcadia**: Haymarket (071-930 8800) ... ☐ **Beautiful Thing**: Duke of York's (071-836 5122) ... ◪ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) ... ■ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... ■ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) ... ☐ **Copacabana**: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) ... ◪ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (071-734 8951) ... ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) ... ■ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) ... ■ **Grease**: Dominion (071-416 6060) ... ◪ **An Inspector Calls**: Aldwych (071-836 6404) ... ■ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) ... ■ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) ... ■ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... ☐ **Neville's Island**: Apollo (071-494 5070) ... ☐ **On Approval**: Playhouse (071-839 4401) ... ☐ **Once on This Island**: Island (Royalty), (071-494 5090) ... **Only the Lonely**: Piccadilly (071-369 1734) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ... ☐ **The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie**: Strand (071-930 8800) ... ◪ **The Queen and I**: Vaudeville (071-836 9987) ... ☐ **She Loves Me**: Savoy (071-836 8888) ... ☐ **The Sisters Rosensweig**: Old Vic (071-928 7616) ... ■ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ... ■ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (071-344 0055) ... ◪ **Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre. **Correct at time of going to press; please check box office.**

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **D2: THE MIGHTY DUCKS** (U): Stale adventures of America's ice hockey team in the Junior Goodwill Games. With Emilio Estevez. Director, Sam Weisman.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914 666) **Mezzanine** (0426 915 683) **Swiss Cottage** (071-586 3057) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3303) **Warner West End** (071-439 4343)

◆ **THE SPECIALIST** (15): Sharon Stone hires explosives expert Sylvester Stallone to avenge her parents' murder. Empty concoction that wastes its stars. With James Woods, Eric Roberts, Rod Steiger. Director, Luis Llosa.
MGMs: Fulham Road Ⓢ (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** Ⓢ (071-727 6705) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332) **Warner West End** (071-439 4343)

CURRENT

GEORGE BALANCHINE'S THE NUTCRACKER (U): The New York City Ballet's famous production, reverently transferred to film with Macaulay Culkin as the Nutcracker Prince. **MGMs: Fulham Rd** Ⓢ (071-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Rd** (071-636 6148)

◆ **JUNIOR** (PG): Juvenile jokes abound as Arnold Schwarzenegger gets pregnant. With Emma Thompson and Danny DeVito. Director, Ivan Reitman.
Empire Ⓢ (0800-888 911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332)

◆ **MARY SHELLEY'S FRANKENSTEIN** (15): Unwieldy, overdone, unenjoyable slog through the famous story. Kenneth Branagh directs and stars with Robert De Niro.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** Ⓢ (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **THE MASK** (PG): Strange mask turns mild bank employee into a wisecracking demon. Inventive vehicle for rubber-faced Jim Carrey, filled with the antic spirit of 1940s cartoons. Director, Charles Russell.
MGMs Fulham Road Ⓢ (071-370 2636) (Screens 3 and 4 only) **Panton Street** (071-930 0631) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Hill** Ⓢ (071-435 3366) **Warner** Ⓢ (071-437 4343)

MINA TANNENBAUM (12): Romane Bohringer and Elsa Zylberstein enliven an uneven story of two Jewish friends in Paris. Writer-director.
Minema (071-235 4225)

◆ **MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET** (U): John Hughes's gooey but just about digestible remake of the 1947 fantasy, with Richard Attenborough as a department store Santa.
Barbican Ⓢ (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (792 3332)

MY FAIR LADY (U): Resplendent restored print of the 1964 musical, with Rex Harrison, Audrey Hepburn, very familiar tunes and Edwardian finery galore. Directed by George Cukor.
MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 6279) **Gate** Ⓢ (071-727 4043)

◆ **THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS** (PG): The King of Halloween tries to take over Christmas. This is a technically brilliant puppet fantasy conceived by Tim Burton, of *Batman* fame and directed by Henry Selick.
Barbican Ⓢ (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915 574) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332)

◆ **PULP FICTION** (18): Quentin Tarantino's award-winning flamboyant crime epic weaves together three tales from the LA underworld. With John Travolta, Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson.
Gate Ⓢ (071-727 4043) **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Screen/Baker St** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Hill** Ⓢ (071-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (071-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (071-437 4343)

THE PUNK AND THE PRINCESS (18): This is an odd but nevertheless engaging modern variation on *Romeo and Juliet*. Mike Sarne, one of the 1960s' likely lads, directs a young cast and crew.
MGM Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148)

STRAWBERRY AND CHOCOLATE (18): Sharp and ebullient plea for tolerance, sexual and otherwise, from veteran Cuban director Tomás Gutiérrez Alea.
Metro (071-437 0757)

THREE COLOURS: RED (15): Kieslowski's compelling film about criss-crossing lives; a majestic climax to his trilogy. With Irène Jacob and Jean-Louis Trintignant.
Chelsea (071-351 3742) **Curzon Mayfair** (071-369 1720) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **Phoenix** (081-883 2233) **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

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Time cannot be extended without any explanation

Savill v Southend Health Authority

Before Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Mann

[Judgment December 14]

Where leave to appeal out of time was sought but no explanation of the delay was given, the court's discretion to extend time could not be exercised as there was no material on which that discretion could be exercised.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff, Violet Virginia Savill, of Ramuz Drive, Westcliff on Sea, from the refusal by Judge John Baker, sitting as a judge of the Queen's Bench Division, to extend time for appealing against an order obtained by the defendants, Southend Health Authority.

Mr Andrew Buchan for the plaintiff; Mr David L. Evans for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE said that the plaintiff was given hospital treatment between October 1985 and May 1986 in respect of which she alleged that the defendants had been negligent.

In January 1988 the plaintiff's solicitors wrote to the defendants giving a broad outline of the allegations and requesting disclosure by them of her hospital records. A writ was then issued and it was served on October 11, 1988. The defendants' solicitors acknowledged service on October 16.

It was not until three years had passed, November 13, 1992, that the statement of claim was served. The defendants' solicitors were unwilling to accept service and issued a summons in the Chelmsford District Registry to dismiss the action for want of prosecution. District Judge Temple dismissed the action on November 15, 1993.

The deadline for appealing against the order of the district judge to the judge in chambers, as calculated under Order 58, rules 1 and 3 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, was November 24, 1993. The notice of appeal was issued five days late, on November 29.

No explanation for the delay having been given, Judge Baker dismissed the plaintiff's application, made under Order 3, rule 5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, to extend time for service of the notice of appeal.

The relevant authorities were *Ratnam v Cumarasamy* ([1965] 1 WLR 8), *Revici v Prentice Hall Inc* ([1969] 1 WLR 157), *Costellow v Somerset County Council* ([1993] 1 WLR 256) and *Regalbourne Ltd v East Lindsey District Council* (*The Times* March 16, 1994).

Those cases were not easy to reconcile but the correct principle was stated by Lord Guest in *Ratnam*'s case, when he said (at p12): ". . .in order to justify a court in extending the time during which some step in procedure requires to be taken, there must be some material on which the court can exercise its discretion."

That applied as much to a minimal delay as to a delay which was substantial. There was no such material before Judge Baker, so he did not act contrary to principle in not exercising his discretion to extend time.

Lord Justice Mann delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Gadsby Wicks, Chelmsford: Beachcroft Stanleys.

Advocate's conduct leads to client's acquittal

Sankar v State of Trinidad and Tobago

Before Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Slynn of Hadley, Lord Woolf and Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead

[Reasons December 16]

By placing his client in a position as a result of which he did not give evidence without receiving advice and without being given any explanation as to the alternative courses open to him, the defence advocate had not fulfilled the duties which he owed to his client and the client's conviction would be quashed.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council so stated in giving reasons for allowing on October 4 an appeal by the appellant, Lawrence Pat Sankar, from the dismissal by the Court of Appeal of Trinidad and Tobago of his appeal against his conviction of murder.

Mr Edward Fitzgerald and Ms Phillippa Kaufmann for the appellant; Mr Peter Knox for the state.

LORD WOOLF said that central to the appellant's appeal was the conduct of his advocate, Mr Israel B. Khan, at the trial. Due to his behaviour there Mr Khan was subsequently the subject of contempt proceedings to which he pleaded guilty.

The ground which was determinative of the outcome of the appeal was advanced for the first time before their Lordships. It was alleged that the behaviour of his advocate deprived the appellant of the opportunity to give evidence in a case where his evidence was essential if he was to have any opportunity to avoid being convicted.

That allegation depended upon further affidavit evidence. Although it was a highly unusual course for their Lordships to adopt, in the exceptional circumstances of the case, they thought it right to consider the additional ground and the further evidence.

The case for the prosecution was based on the evidence of three eye witnesses, who claimed that on the morning in question the appellant had a conversation with the deceased and had then drawn a knife and had stabbed the deceased in the chest.

The witnesses' account of the incident was only consistent with the appellant having made an unprovoked attack upon the deceased with a knife. Although suggestions were made in cross-examination that the deceased had a knife that was denied by the witnesses. They also denied that there was any other conduct on the part of the deceased which would afford any support for a contention that the appellant was acting in self-defence.

The appellant did not give evidence. In his closing address the appellant's advocate made it clear that he was doing no more than putting the prosecution to proof. Evidence had been obtained both from the appellant and Mr Khan as to what had occurred which resulted in the appellant not giving evidence.

The decision of the appellant as to that was of the greatest importance since if he was to have any prospect of avoiding conviction, that would have been dependent upon his giving evidence which conflicted with that of the three eye witnesses called on behalf of the prosecution.

In his affidavit, the appellant stated that Mr Khan had informed him that he would be going into the witness box to give evidence. However, after the trial had restarted on the Monday, while the only witness who remained to give evidence on behalf of the prosecution was giving that evidence, Mr Khan went over to the dock and told the appellant that he was not sending him in the box because of the way the trial had gone.

The appellant then told Mr Khan that he still wanted to give evidence but Mr Khan informed him that he was sure to be convicted but would get a retrial. He wanted to give evidence that he and the deceased were in a struggle when the deceased was wounded with the knife he had drawn. However, the appellant thought that, as he was only a few yards away from the jury, it would make him look bad if he were to argue with his own lawyer. He informed the judge and the jury that he had been advised by his lawyer to stay silent.

Mr Khan in his affidavit said that he conducted the case in accordance with his instructions from the appellant along the lines of self-defence, provocation and accident; that he indicated to the appellant the pros and cons of giving his evidence from the witness stand or making an unsworn statement from the dock and that the appellant had opted to make an unsworn statement: and that on the Monday morning the appellant had told him something and he was taken by surprise.

Very shortly thereafter the trial continued and while the last witness was being called he was pondering what the appellant had told him and eventually, based on that, he expressed the opinion that he was duty bound to advise the appellant to remain silent and he so advised.

The appellant was, even on Mr Khan's account, placed in a position as a result of which he did not give evidence or make a statement from the dock without his having received advice and without his being given any explanation as to what were the alternative courses which were open to him.

Their Lordships did not know what the appellant told Mr Khan. However, whatever Mr Khan was told, he was under a duty to investigate the matter fully with the appellant and explain the options which were open to him.

He should, if necessary, have sought an adjournment for that purpose. He did not fulfil the duties he owed to his client by doing no more than giving what must have been whispered advice during the course of a trial.

Mr Knox felt compelled to accept that there had been a miscarriage of justice. The appellant had been deprived in reality of deciding whether or not he should give evidence or at least make a statement from the dock.

It had never been explained to him how important his evidence would be to the outcome of the trial and that, without that evidence, in practice there was no defence. Those were things he should most certainly have been told.

The fact that the appellant apparently said something to Mr Khan which embarrassed him in his further conduct of the defence did not mean that he was discharged from fulfilling those minimum obligations which any advocate owed to his client.

Mr Khan, if what he was told made that necessary, could have withdrawn from the trial. Even then he would have been under a duty to explain the position to the appellant and place before him the options which arose in consequence of the embarrassing position in which Mr Khan found himself.

One of those options would have been for Mr Khan to withdraw from the case, if the course that the appellant selected was inconsistent with Mr Khan's duty to the court.

Although the facts were different from those in *R v McLoughlin* ([1985] 1 NZLR 106, 107), the principle to which Mr Justice Hardie Boys there referred applied equally here.

In *R v Clinton* ([1993] 1 WLR 1181) the English authorities were reviewed by the Court of Appeal, which made it clear that it was only in wholly exceptional circumstances that the conduct of counsel could form the basis for an appeal, but in that case the appeal was allowed.

Mr Justice Rougier had pointed out (at p1188) that it was probably less helpful to approach the problem via the somewhat semantic exercise of trying to assess the qualitative value of counsel's alleged ineptitude, but rather to seek to assess its effect on the trial. When that was done the outcome could differ.

The Board were satisfied that it was not a case where it would be appropriate to apply the proviso to section 44(1) of the Trinidad and Tobago Supreme Court Judicature Act and the appeal had to be allowed.

Solicitors: Simons Muirhead & Burton; Charles Russell.

Challenge to amendment of information is possible

Regina v Greater Manchester Justices, Ex parte Aldi GmbH & Co KG
Aldi GmbH & Co KG v Mulvenna

Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Mr Justice Latham

[Judgment December 13]

While it was inappropriate to challenge by case stated or judicial review interlocutory matters before justices, that was not so where justices had amended an information to substitute one defendant for another and adjourned the proceedings for service of a summons on the substituted defendant.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so stated when granting judicial review to Aldi GmbH & Co KG and quashing an amendment made by Eccles Justices on October 25 and 26, 1993 to an information which alleged offences contrary to section 20(1) of the Consumer Protection Act 1987 and section 4(6) of the Business Names Act 1985, preferred on March 24, 1993 by Mr Patrick Mulvenna, City Administrator of Salford City Council, substituting Aldi GmbH & Co KG for Aldi Stores Ltd.

Aldi GmbH & Co KG ran the two stores in which the offences were alleged to have occurred, while Aldi Stores Ltd were the wholesalers who supplied them with goods.

Mr Frederick Philpott for Aldi; Mr T. E. Shannon for Salford.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that power to allow rectification of a defect in process came from section 123 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 in which the two subsections should be read together. They referred both to information and summons and subsection (2) assumed the presence of the defendant or his legal adviser in court.

There had been a number of cases where a defendant had been brought to court under the wrong name and an amendment allowed because the defendant who was the party against whom the information or summons should have been laid or served was actually present in court and knew what was happening.

However in *Marco (Croydon) Ltd v Metropolitan Police* ([1984] RTR 34) a distinction was drawn between those cases where the justices were satisfied the right person had received the summons and knew it was intended for him and was not prejudiced in any way and a case where the wrong defendant company of a group had been summoned.

In her Ladyship's judgment, the court was bound by *Marco* which was on all fours with the present case and it did not avail the council to argue that the amendment sought was of the information and not of the summons, as in *Marco*, because both were dealt with in section 123.

It was not appropriate, in her Ladyship's judgment, to go to the High Court by way of case stated and in the present case the justices' clerk had indicated that to the group of companies, because the proceedings were at an interlocutory stage.

The principles in *Streames v Copping* ([1985] QB 920) which dealt with the undesirability of stating a case in such circumstances in general also applied to the use of judicial review, which was a valuable weapon, in interlocutory matters.

The correct course was for the Divisional Court to hear objections after a determination of the summons. In the present case, however, because there had been an adjournment, it was right and proper that the Divisional Court deal with the matter.

Judicial review was the only avenue by which the court could decide whether or not the justices were wrong to amend. It was right to grant the remedy sought by way of judicial review and accordingly the amendment would be quashed.

Mr Justice Latham agreed.

Solicitors: Edge & Ellison, Birmingham; Mr Patrick Mulvenna, Salford.

Intention to injure essential to misfeasance tort

Bennett v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis and Others

Before Mr Justice Rattee

[Judgment December 20]

An intention to injure was an essential ingredient of the tort of public misfeasance. The plaintiff's statement of claim failed to disclose any evidence of misfeasance or of negligence on the part of the Secretary of State for the Home Department and according those parts of the claim which related to the Home Secretary would be struck out.

Mr Justice Rattee so held in the Chancery Division in proceedings begun by the plaintiff, Paul James Bennett, by a writ issued on June 28 claiming damages against the defendants, the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Home Secretary, in respect of the fact that he was kept in custody from July 31, 1992 [the date of the Divisional Court's decision on a preliminary point as to jurisdiction] and the date of his actual release on July 7, 1993 and for grief, anxiety and trauma.

The judgment was given on a summons to strike out parts of the statement of claim issued by the Home Secretary on September 6, 1994.

Mr Alan Newman, QC and Mr Brian Jubb, QC for the plaintiff; Mr Stephen Richards for the Home Secretary.

MR JUSTICE RATTEE after relating the circumstances in which the plaintiff was arrested at Heathrow on February 21, 1991 and held in custody until July 7, 1993 [see *The Times* December 2] said that while Mr Newman had rightly contended that it was at least arguable that the Home Secretary had a duty to consider, before objecting to the discovery of any particularly class of documents of a class *prima facie* entitled to public interest immunity, whether the public interest in their non-disclosure outweighed on the facts of a particular case the public interest in those documents being available in the administration of justice, it was undesirable for his Lordship to reach any considered view on the question.

Mr Richards rightly contended that an intent to injure was an essential ingredient in the tort of public misfeasance: see *Dunlop v Woollahra Municipial Council* ([1982] AC 158) and *Bourgoin SA v Minister of Agriculture Fisheries and Food* ([1986] QB 716) and the plaintiff's case as pleaded failed to disclose any cause of action against the Home Secretary in respect of misfeasance in public office.

Even if it was arguable that the Home Secretary had some public duty himself to carry out the balancing of public interests, he owed no private law duty of care towards the plaintiff in respect of his public duty.

Having referred to *Caparo Industries plc v Dickman* ([1990] 2AC 605) and *Elguzouli-Daf v Commissioner of Police of Metropolis (The Times* November 23, 1994) his Lordship said a duty of care would be inappropriate in the exercise of his essentially public duty.

The statement of claim failed to disclose any cause of action either on misfeasance or on negligence against the Home Secretary and therefore the striking out sought would be granted.

Solicitors: Hallinan Blackburn Gittings & Nott; Treasury Solicitor.

Determining whether tenancy is on commercial basis

Regina v Sheffield Housing Benefits Review Board, Ex parte Smith and Others
Regina v Rugby Borough Council Housing Benefits Review Board, Ex parte Harrison and Others
Regina v Daventry District Council Housing Benefits Review Board, Ex parte Bodden and Others

Before Mr Justice Blackburne

[Judgment December 8]

The question of whether a tenancy or other agreement was "other than on a commercial basis" for the purposes of regulation 7(1)(a)(ii) of the Housing Benefit (General) Regulations (SI 1987 No 1971) had to be determined by looking at the agreement as a whole and not simply by asking whether the rent or other sum payable was on a commercial basis.

Mr Justice Blackburne so held in the Queen's Bench Division when, *inter alia*, dismissing applications by various members of the Jesus Fellowship Community Church for judicial review of separate decisions of the Sheffield, Rugby and Daventry housing benefits review boards that the applicants were not entitled to housing benefit in respect of the church community houses where they lived.

Regulation 7 provides: "(1) The following persons shall be treated as if they were not liable to make payments in respect of a dwelling — (a) a person who resides with the person to whom he is liable to make payments in respect of the dwelling and either — (i) that person is a close relative of his or his partner, or (ii) the tenancy or other agreement between them is other than on a commercial basis. . ."

Mr Thomas Dumont for the Sheffield applicants; Mr Iain Partridge for the Sheffield board; Mr Alan Newman, QC and Mr Antony White for the Rugby and Daventry applicants; Mr Timothy Straker for the Rugby and Daventry boards; Mr John Howell, QC and Miss Natalie Lieven for the Department of Social Security.

MR JUSTICE BLACKBURNE said that the applicants were all "style 3 members" of the Jesus Fellowship Community Church who were required to live in community houses. Each review board decision was concerned with a different community house.

Each applicant occupied a community house as his home pursuant to conditions of residence under which the occupant's legal position was described as being that of a licensee under which he was required to pay board and lodging costs for himself and his family at laid down rates and to pay his income into the house's common purse.

The conditions of residence also included terms requiring the person signing them to undertake matters of a spiritual and domestic nature which could not be enforced in a court of law. His Lordship found that, regarding matters which were capable of legal enforcement, the conditions of residence created a legally enforceable contract which imposed on the member a liability to make payments in respect of the dwelling.

That left only the question whether the applicants were deprived of a right to housing benefit under regulation 7(1)(a)(ii).

The concern in regulation 7(1)(a) was to exclude from benefit certain arrangements which might not in fact be an abuse of the benefit scheme but which, by their very nature, were capable of being an abuse of the scheme.

Rather than inquire whether there was an abuse those who framed the regulations had simply excluded them from benefit.

Under regulation 7(1)(a)(ii) the test was whether the arrangement was "on a commercial basis".

There was no reason why, in considering whether that test was satisfied, that it was proper only to consider the amount payable for the accommodation and why the other terms of the tenancy or other agreement had to be ignored.

The exercise was to look at the arrangement as a whole and ask whether it was on a commercial basis.

His Lordship also accepted the submission that the fact that the expression "commercial" was not defined, unlike so many other expressions in the regulations, was precisely because the framers of the regulations had left it to those who applied the regulations to determine whether, in any particular case, the test of commerciality was satisfied.

Unless a review board, properly directing itself on the law, could not reasonably have reached the conclusion it did a court should not interfere with the decision reached.

It followed that to bring a case within regulation 7(1)(a) it was not necessary for there to be a finding that the tenancy or other agreement was a contrivance or was created to take advantage of the scheme. Were that necessary regulation 7(1)(b) would suffice.

Nor did the absence of a finding that the charges for board and lodgings were other than on a commercial basis compel a conclusion that regulation 7(1)(a)(ii) did not apply.

Solicitors: Mason Bullock, Northampton; Mrs Elizabeth Bashforth, Sheffield; Mason Bullock, Northampton; Sharpe Pritchard for Mr Andrew Gabbitas, Rugby and Mr Robert Symons, Daventry; Solicitor, DSS.

Duty to inquire into all relevant information

Snape v Mulvenna

A trading standards officer had a general duty under section 27 of the Consumer Protection Act 1987 in the exercise of enforcing safety provisions including dealing with misleading price indications to ask for all relevant information.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Mr Justice Latham) so stated on December 13 when dismissing an appeal by Deborah Snape by way of case stated of her conviction by Eccles Justices after trial on October 25 and 26, 1993 of failing to give information to a trading standards officer without reasonable cause contrary to section 32(1)(c) of the 1987 Act.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that the justices had found that the trading standards officer had reasonable grounds to believe an offence had been committed under section 20 of the 1987 Act and that he had reasonable grounds to believe Miss Snape, who was the checkout operator during his purchase, was able to give material information.

In her Ladyship's judgment, questions submitted to Miss Snape were reasonably required as the exercise of the officer's functions was not, as contended, confined to test purchases and powers of search.

There was a general duty under section 27 of the 1987 Act to enforce safety provisions, including dealing with misleading indications and in general an officer had a duty to ask for information.

The justices were entitled on the available evidence to conclude that that information might be available from Miss Snape and the officer was entitled to ask her. She was obliged by law to answer. Instructions from her superior not to answer did not constitute a defence.

European Law Report — Luxembourg

Brussels Convention prevents overlap of issues in parallel proceedings

Owners of cargo lately laden on board Tatry v Owners of Maciej Rataj

(Case C-406/92)

Before G. C. Rodriguez Iglesias, President and Judges R. Joliet, F. A. Schockweiler, P. J. G. Kapteyn, G. F. Mancini, C. N. Kakouris and J. L. Murray

Advocate General G. Tesauro

(Opinion July 13)

[Judgment December 6]

On the proper construction of article 21 of the Brussels Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters 1968, where some but not all of the parties to an action were the same as the parties to an action commenced earlier in another contracting state, the second court seised only had to decline jurisdiction to the extent that the parties in the two sets of proceedings were the same, and article 21 did not prevent the second proceedings from continuing between the other parties.

For the purposes of article 21, an action seeking to have the defendant held liable for causing loss and to pay damages had the same cause of action and the same object as earlier proceedings brought by that defendant seeking a declaration that he was not liable for that loss.

The Court of Justice of the European Communities so held, *inter alia*, on a reference by the Court of Appeal ([1992] 2 Lloyd's Rep 552), under the Protocol of June 3, 1971 on the interpretation by the Court of Justice of the 1968 Convention, for a preliminary ruling on questions relating to the 1968 Convention as amended by the Accession Convention of October 9, 1978 (OJ 1978 L304 p77).

A cargo of soya bean oil, belonging to a number of owners, carried on board the Tatry was discharged in October 1988 partly in Rotterdam and partly in Hamburg.

Shortly after discharge complaint was made that the cargo had been contaminated by hydrocarbons in the course of the voyage.

In November 1988 the shipowners, who also owned the Maciej Rataj, brought proceedings in The Netherlands, in which one of the cargo owners, Phibro, was not named as a defendant, seeking a declaration that the shipowners were not liable or fully liable for the alleged contamination.

In September 1989 actions seeking damages for alleged loss were brought in England by way of writs *in rem* against the Tatry and the Maciej Rataj, which had docked in Liverpool, issued by (i) the owners of the Hamburg cargo, in the action folio 2006, and (ii) Phibro as owner of part of the Rotterdam cargo, in the action folio 2007. The Maciej Rataj was arrested.

Subsequently further proceedings were initiated in The Netherlands.

On motions by the shipowners in the English proceedings seeking, on the basis of the Brussels Convention, that the English court should decline jurisdiction in favour of The Netherlands court, Mr Justice Sheen ([1991] 2 Lloyd's Rep 458) held against the shipowners on the grounds, *inter alia*, that, in relation to article 21, (i) in folio 2006, The Netherlands and English proceedings did not have the same cause of action, and (ii) in folio 2007, Phibro was not a party to the relevant Netherlands proceedings, and, in relation to article 22, a stay would not be granted as a matter of discretion, in either action.

On appeal by the shipowners, the Hamburg cargo owners argued, *inter alia*, that reliance could not be placed on article 21 for two, among other, reasons:

(a) Since The Netherlands proceedings were *in personam* but the folio 2006 proceedings, having started *in rem*, subsequently became both *in rem* and *in personam*, the two sets of proceedings did not involve the same cause of action.

(b) The jurisdictional foundation of the *in rem* proceedings was the Brussels International Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules relating to the Arrest of Seagoing Ships of May 10, 1952, implemented in England by sections 20 to 24 of the Supreme Court Act 1981, so that the Brussels Convention was excluded by article 57 of the Arrest Convention.

Article 21 of the Brussels Convention provided: "Where proceedings involving the same cause of action and between the same parties are brought in the courts of different contracting states, any court other than the court first seised shall of its own motion decline jurisdiction in favour of that court. . ."

Article 22 of the Convention provided: "Where related actions are brought in the courts of different contracting states, any court other than the court first seised may, while the actions are pending at first instance, stay its proceedings. . .

"For the purposes of this article, actions are deemed to be related where they are so closely connected that it is expedient to hear and determine them together to avoid the risk of irreconcilable judgments resulting from separate proceedings."

Article 57, of the Brussels Convention, as substituted by article 25 of the Accession Convention (OJ 1978 L304 p1), provided: "This Convention shall not affect any conventions to which the contracting states are or will be parties and which, in relation to particular matters, govern jurisdiction or the recognition or enforcement of judgments. . ."

In its judgment on the five questions referred by the Court of Appeal the Court of Justice of the European Communities held as follows:

1 Given the purpose of article 57, to ensure compliance with the rules on jurisdiction laid down by specialised conventions, the article was to be understood as precluding the application of the Brussels Convention solely in relation to questions governed by a specialised convention.

Thus, when a specialised convention contained certain rules of jurisdiction but no provision as to *lis pendens* or related actions, articles 21 and 22 of the Brussels Convention applied.

Article 3(3) of the Arrest Convention, which prohibited a second arrest of a ship by the same claimant in respect of the same claim in the jurisdiction of another contracting state, had nothing to do with the concept of *lis pendens* in the meaning of article 21 of the Brussels Convention.

2 The Court of Appeal asked whether article 21 was applicable where not all the parties in two sets of proceedings were the same.

The question whether the parties were the same could not depend on their procedural positions in the two actions. The plaintiff in the first could therefore be the defendant in the second.

The rules in section 8 of Title II of the Convention, including articles 21 and 22, were designed to preclude the possibility of a situation arising such as that referred to in article 27(3), namely, the non-recognition of a judgment on account of its irreconcilability with a judgment in a dispute between the same parties in the state where recognition was sought.

In the light of that objective, and the wording of article 21, that article was to be understood as requiring, as a condition of the obligation of the second court seised to decline jurisdiction, that the parties to the two actions be identical.

Consequently, where some of the parties were the same as the parties to an action which had already been started, article 21 required the second court seised to decline jurisdiction only to the extent to which the parties to the proceedings pending before it were also parties to the action previously started before the court of another contracting state; it did not prevent the proceedings from continuing between the other parties.

Although that interpretation of article 21 involved fragmenting the proceedings, article 22 mitigated that disadvantage.

3 The next question was essentially whether an action seeking to have the defendant held liable for causing loss and ordered to pay damages had the same cause of action and the same object as earlier proceedings brought by that defendant seeking a declaration that he was not liable for that loss.

The English version of article 21 did not expressly distinguish between the concepts of "object" and "cause" of action, but that language version had to be construed in the same manner as the majority of the other language versions, in which that distinction was made: see (Case 144/86) *Gubisch Maschinenfabrik KG v Palumbo* ([1987] ECR 4861), paragraph 14.

For the purposes of article 21, the "cause of action" comprised the facts and the rule of law relied on as the basis of the action.

Consequently, an action for a declaration of non-liability, such as that brought by the shipowners in the present case, and another action such as that subsequently brought by the cargo owners on the basis of shipping contracts which were separate but in identical terms, concerning the same cargo transported in bulk and damaged in the same circumstances, had the same cause of action.

The "object of the action" for the purposes of article 21 meant the end the action had in view.

Where one action sought a declaration that the plaintiff was not liable for damage as claimed by the defendants, while a second, commenced subsequently by those defendants, sought to have the plaintiff in the first action held liable for causing loss and ordered to pay damages, the second object had the same object as the first as the issue of liability was central to both actions.

The fact that the plaintiff's pleadings were couched in negative terms in the first action whereas in the second action the pleadings were couched in positive terms by the defendant, who had become plaintiff, did not make the object of the dispute different.

As to damages, the pleas in the second action were the natural consequence of those relating to the finding of liability and thus did not alter the principal object of the action. Moreover, the fact that a party sought a declaration that he was not liable for loss implied that he disputed any obligation to pay damages.

4 The Court of Appeal posed a question relating to actions *in personam* and *in rem*.

The terms "same cause of action" and "between the same parties" in article 21 had an independent meaning (*Gubisch* paragraph 11), and therefore were to be interpreted independently of the specific features of the law in force in each contracting state.

It followed that the distinction drawn by the law of a contracting state between an action *in personam* and one *in rem* was not material for the interpretation of article 21.

5 On the Court of Appeal's final question, concerning article 22, the concept of related actions defined in the third paragraph of the article had to be interpreted broadly and so as to cover all cases where there was a risk of conflicting decisions, even if the judgments could be separately enforced and their legal consequences were not mutually exclusive.

The contention by the cargo owners and the Commission that the adjective "irreconcilable"," which appeared in both article 22 and article 27(3), had the same sense in both provisions so that, as a result of case law of the court, decisions had to have mutually exclusive legal consequences, could not be accepted: the term had a different meaning in the two articles, which had different objectives.

Article 27(3) enabled a court, by way of derogation from the principles and objectives of the Convention, to refuse to recognise a foreign judgment.

The third paragraph of article 22 was designed to improve coordination of the exercise of judicial functions within the Community and to avoid conflicting and contradictory decisions, even where the separate enforcement of each of them was not precluded.

On those grounds the Court of Justice of the European Communities ruled:

1 On a proper construction, article 57 of the Brussels Convention meant that, where a contracting state was also a contracting party to another convention on a specific matter containing rules on jurisdiction, that specialised convention precluded the application of the provisions of the Brussels Convention only in cases governed by the specialised convention and not in those to which it did not apply.

2 On a proper construction of article 21, where two actions involved the same cause of action and some but not all of the parties to the second action were the same as the parties to the action commenced earlier in another contracting state, the second court seised was required to decline jurisdiction only to the extent to which the parties to the proceedings before it were also parties to the action previously commenced: it did not prevent the proceedings from continuing between the other parties.

3 On a proper construction of article 21, an action seeking to have the defendant held liable for causing loss and ordered to pay damages had the same cause of action and the same object as earlier proceedings brought by that defendant seeking a declaration that he was not liable for that loss.

4 A subsequent action did not cease to have the same cause of action and the same object and to be between the same parties as a previous action where the latter, brought by the owner of a ship before a court of a contracting state, was an action *in personam* for a declaration that that owner was not liable for alleged damage to cargo transported by his ship, whereas the subsequent action had been brought by the owner of the cargo before a court of another contracting state by way of an action *in rem* concerning an arrested ship, and had subsequently continued both *in rem* and *in personam*, or solely *in personam*, according to the distinctions drawn by the national law of that other contracting state.

5 On a proper construction of article 22, it was sufficient, in order to establish the necessary relationship between, on the one hand, an action brought in a contracting state by one group of cargo owners against a shipowner seeking damages for harm caused to part of the cargo carried in bulk under separate but identical contracts, and, on the other, an action in damages brought in another contracting state against the same shipowner by the owners of another part of the cargo shipped under the same conditions and under contracts which were separate from but identical to those between the first group and the shipowner, that separate trial and judgment would involve the risk of conflicting decisions, without necessarily involving the risk of giving rise to mutually exclusive legal consequences.

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Dreams of a rural life are as strong as ever — and more and more Londoners are taking the plunge, says **Christine Webb**

A capital idea — move to the country

The desire to move to the country is never so acute as after a Christmas in town. Fractious children and their parents long for more space after ten days of being cooped up together.

Recent figures show that more people are fleeing London to realise their dreams of small-town or country life. At least 202,000 people left the capital in the year up to March, an increase of 20,000 on 1990-91. The 1991 census suggested that London had lost 5 per cent of its population since 1981.

But John Hollis, a demographic consultant, says: "The broad pattern for Londoners who leave is that they don't go very far."

More than half, 115,000, stayed within commuting distance, sliding out radially into the Home Counties. The next biggest draw was the southwest, which gained nearly 20,000 new residents in the year to March 1994. The Midlands, East Anglia and the northwest also made small gains, each absorbing about 10,000 people from the capital.

This spring's reawakening of the London property market oiled the trend as some families capitalised on a price rise of up to 20 per cent on their town property which was not echoed in the country.

Since home ownership in London rose 35 per cent between 1981 and 1991, the exodus should stimulate the market elsewhere. Surrey, Sussex, parts of Kent and Hertfordshire have been the most popular destinations, and as the Channel Tunnel rail link is settled other parts of Kent will pick up.

But London should not feel the loss, since it had an influx of 151,000 and the net loss of 50,000 residents is offset by gains of about 20,000 from overseas. Other factors also come into play, says Mr Hollis, of the London Research Centre, a body largely funded by the London boroughs to gather data about the capital.

"The average household size is shrinking because of changing lifestyles," he says. "Just to keep the population at a standstill we'd need to build a considerable number of homes in London every year. The biggest accommodation shortage is of small units for one-parent families, single people and pensioners."

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, the annual net population loss was 15,000 as the property market slowed. But Mr Hollis expects the net loss to remain at 25,000 to 30,000 a year.

There are many reasons why people move out of London. Some are forced to leave when their employers relocate. "Migration is very much led by the economy," Mr Hollis says. "In 1991 the number of moves was almost as low as in the previous recession ten years earlier. But now there is a pick-up.

"There's a drift of people who come to the centre of London as singles. If they form a partnership and children follow, the need for more space drives them out. If they live in southeast London they are more likely to move further southeast than to the North West."

PHILIP DUNN

A residential street in Chelsea, west London (left) versus the rural peace of the Stroud valleys, on the edge of the Cotswolds (see story right)

> "The broad pattern for Londoners who leave is that they don't go far"

Now that new technology has enabled many people to work at home at least some of the time, they have been able to realise a rural dream.

People in this position are apt to fall in love with plum properties. For those at the top end of the market, Sacombe Park, an eminently accessible Grade II* listed Georgian country house near Ware, Hertfordshire, boasts 11 bedrooms, four offices and a study, a staff flat, a stocked fishing lake, hard tennis court and 16 acres and is just 25 miles from central London. It is for sale at Knight Frank & Rutley's Hadley Green office at £950,000.

Or, at a more modest £295,000, the company's Tunbridge Wells office is marketing The Rosery, a pretty five-bedroom period property with an acre of land at Matfield, 38 miles from London, and ten minutes drive from Tonbridge's rail service into Charing Cross.

Paul Greenwood, of Stacks Relocation, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, which has 12 branches in England and Wales, has helped many clients to leave London.

"They are largely youngish couples who want to bring up their children in the country," he says. "They fall into four categories: the basic commuter who will travel 40 minutes on the train with 20 minutes at each end; the dedicated commuter who is prepared to read on the train for one and a quarter hours with 20 minutes either end, which is very hard work and expensive; thirdly those who have a pad in London and a house in the country where they can spend four days a week, which means they can live further out, and they are increasing.

"We find the area around the M3, M4 and M40 is the most popular. Surrey is faintly old hat because although the distances are not so great, the communications are less good. Kent will become more popular and, if or when the recovery takes hold, East Anglia will take off because property prices are cheap there compared with west of London."

Rupert Sweeting, of Knight Frank & Rutley's country house department, says that as working entirely from home becomes more common, so the demand for country houses with office accommodation will increase.

"For those who have to commute, one and a half hours is the limit. People say they'd like to be in Kent or Sussex because they're the best lines in. Many people say it's much less hassle commuting from outside London than from within. There's a very quick service from Herts that can get you door to door in 50 minutes. Paddington is less easy, but if its transport links improve more people will want to move west."

Ian Stewart, of Savills Country Homes, said the trend was definitely from London to the country, and the impetus was largely financial.

"This year the differential between London and the country has been mostly in favour of Londoners because London prices have bounced off the bottom by anything up to 20 per cent. The country has bounced too, but not as much and the ratio is greater than it has been for a few years.

"Couples aged between 35 and 45, whose children need more space, are easily selling their small £400,000 homes in Chelsea or Dulwich and buying quite a lot for their money in the Home Counties: say a six-bedroom house with a tennis court and a few acres — real value for money."

COTSWOLD DREAM

CHRISTOPHER Roupell will commute to Kensington from the far edge of the Cotswolds after he and his family have moved into a delightful listed Queen Anne house early in January. *Christine Webb writes.*

He is swapping a half-hour drive to the office from the family home in Wandsworth for a 75-minute journey from deepest Gloucestershire. "I can hardly wait," he says.

He and his wife, Louisa, have hankered for the country for five years, since the first of their two children was born.

"I'm 37 and have lived in London for 15 years. It's an evolutionary process that everyone seems to reach when children need more space and fresh air," he says. "We decided to take the plunge this summer but there was very little on the market nearer London. This house came up at Yuley and we fell in love with it."

Christopher Roupell: a 75-minute journeysoon

The object of their affection is Coombe House, a six-bedroom 18th-century home in an acre of garden seven miles southwest of Stroud, which Knight Frank & Rutley marketed at £395,000.

Mr Roupell, an estate agent, plans to spend one or two nights a week at a two-bedroom flat which he owns near his business, a franchise of Winkworth's. On other days he will drive to Kemble station, which is 55 minutes from London and use a motorbike to get to work from Paddington. Sometimes he will work from home.

The cost of a missing nought

Check property sale contracts carefully; terrible mistakes can be made

It is every home-sellers's nightmare. Your house is sold, but somehow a nought is left off the sale price. This has happened recently: a pensioner is to sue the man who bought her bungalow for £2,500 instead of £20,500 because, she claims, a nought was left off the sale price in the contract.

Daphne Brooks, 66, from Walthamstow, east London, plans to sue Albert Lupini, the buyer of her two-bedroom bungalow at Point Clear in Clacton-on-Sea for "sharp practice". Mrs Brooks says Mr Lupini, 67, knew the sale price in the contract papers was wrong when he bought the house just over a year ago.

She originally asked for compensation from the insurers of Cawright, Cunningham and Haselgrove, the Walthamstow solicitors who handled the sale. But the Solicitors' Indemnity Fund, which legal firms pay into for cover against claims, rejected her claim that the solicitors had acted negligently.

Mrs Brooks decided to sell the two-bedroom bungalow after her husband died. The couple used it as a weekend retreat from their florist's business, Mrs Brooks said. "It was being sold for £20,500," she added, "but whoever did the typing left out a nought and the sale price became £2,500. Everything went through before I realised."

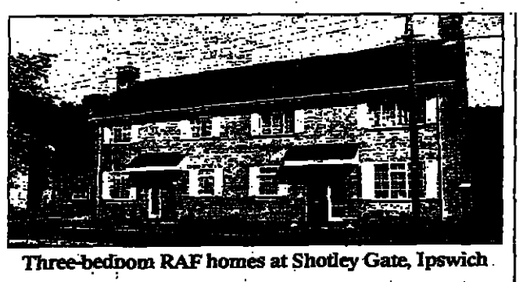
Mrs Brooks said the house was valued by a Clacton estate agent at £21,995 but was taken off the market and went through as a private sale when Mr Lupini, of Abbotts Langley, Hertfordshire, offered to pay the asking price.

David Haselgrove, the solicitor, said he drew up the sale contract according to information Mrs Brooks gave him. He denied the firm was at fault. Mrs Brooks had, he said, ample opportunity to check the figures in the contract. "I was instructed by telephone to sell the property at a price of £2,500," he said. "I raised no questions on the price because I was aware there are a lot of seaside chalets in the area. I prepared the papers at this price and sent them to the purchaser at this price. He approved them and the signed contract and transfer were both shown at this price to Mrs Brooks for approval and signed. "It was only after completion that she said that the price was wrong. She had every opportunity to check the papers."

RACHEL KELLY

Daphne Brooks, outside her former two-bedroom bungalow in Clacton-on-Sea

IN BRIEF: Former RAF houses for sale; Longford Hall to be demolished



Three-bedroom RAF homes at Shotley Gate, Ipswich

Rush for a bargain

MORE than 00 buyers are competing to buy 42 former RAF houses near Ipswich in Suffolk that go on sale for about two-thirs of their market price this January. *Rachel Kelly writes.*

The semi-detached postwar houses are being offered for between £34,95 and £41,950 for three bedrooms with a sitting-room, dining-room, kitchen, bathroom, central heating and a largegarden.

The estate agency, Seatons of Ipswich, say that similar houses usually sell for about £55,000. The developers, the Hodge Group, bought the houses cheaply in a bulk sale from the Ministry of Defence.

The homes are at the former Naval Training Establishment of the HMS Ganges at Shotley Gate, nine miles southeast of Ipswich.

Seatons is now taking reservations for the properties. Many of those interested are former RAF personnel, who are being treated like any other buyers. The Royal Air Forces Association, which represents ex-servicemen, feels that such homes should be offered first to ex-servicemen.

Call for restoration

LONGFORD Hall, a Grade II listed building near Stretford, Manchester, and the former home of textile magnate John Rylands, is to be demolished, John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, ruled this month. *Rachel Kelly writes.*

Local residents have denounced the decision and campaigned for the repair of the elaborate Italianate building owned by Trafford Borough Council.

Jim Gatt, the chairman of the Longford Conservation Group, says: "There seems to be one law for private owners of listed buildings and another for public owners." The Group is considering an appeal.

The building sits in nearly four acres of parkland in Manchester, and has been the subject of an eight-year dispute between conservationists and the council. The council wanted to demolish the building, which it bought in 1911 along with the parkland for public use, because it had fallen into disrepair and was no longer required by the council. Restoration was estimated to cost between £1.3 million and £1.6 million.

Longford Hall: disrepair

Conservationists argue that Mr Rylands was an important figure. Frederick Ratcliffe, the librarian of Cambridge University, described Mr Rylands and his wife as the greatest benefactors Stretford and Manchester had known.

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READERSHIP 1,448,000
ABC1 READERSHIP 1,191,000
To reach the highest targeted audience of any quality daily please call
071 782 7179
or fax 071 782 7828
Source: ABC May '94 - Oct '94, NRS April-Sept '94

Extraterrestrial presenters, Oprah Winfrey's Thought for the Day, and a Coliseum of the air . . . there's no harm in wishing for 1995

Real people, real fires, please

BRENDA MADDOX

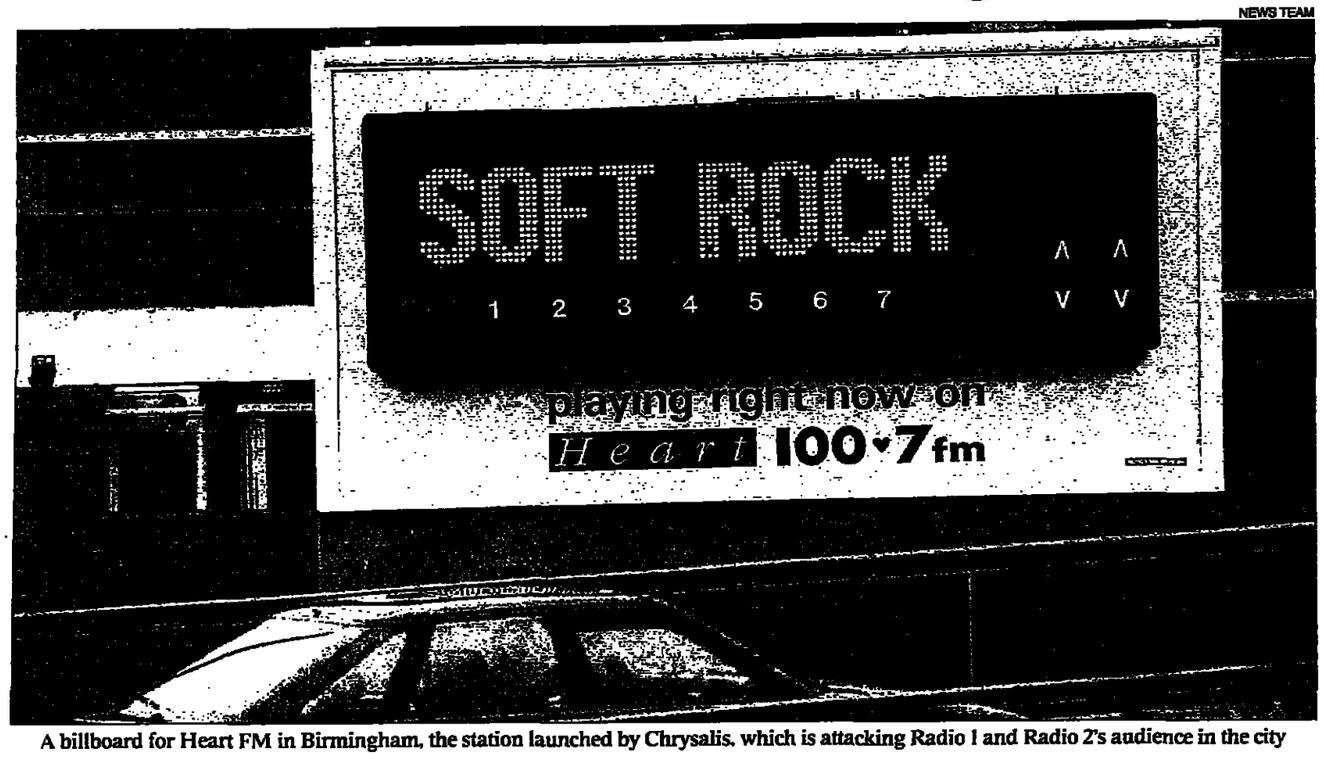
Resolutions being pointless, I'll settle for wishes instead. The New Year, with any luck, will bring:

- The disappearance of *Anderson Country*.
- A genuine extraterrestrial to front television's so-called "science" programmes, currently in love with the paranormal.
- A woman of child-bearing age as BBC chairman if (as rumour has it) the Tories will tempt Marmaduke Hussey to step down.
- The amalgamation of the Broadcasting Standards Council, the Broadcasting Complaints Commission, and the BBC's governors' complaints board, plus the Independent Television Commission's, into a single one-stop complaints body which does not begin with "B".
- Real fires on television. The White House and such surely ought to be able to invest in afford real wood and real coal as backdrops for their fireside chats instead of those patently fake gaslogs that the rest of us ordinary mortals use.
- Daily correction columns in newspapers on the same page, every day, putting right even the tiniest error of the days preceding.
- The new style of trendy warts-and-all obituaries to include the one detail everyone really wants to know: cause of death.
- All British politicians to emulate Silvio Berlusconi and show their real feelings on their faces. Say what you will about Italy's top PR man, what you see is what you get.
- An end to news bulletins breathing dramatically "a report just in" to conceal the endless recycling of stale items.
- What Keir Hardie called "a change of heart" to cure the British public's *insatiable appetite for* crime stories.
- An E-mail address that doesn't contain that unnameable character "@".
- A voice-mail message that says simply: "Please leave your name and number", then shuts up.
- A Coliseum of the air. Suitably equipped with keypad or a range of telephone numbers, we could all vote thumbs up or down on the sentences passed on major criminals, thus sparing Home Secretaries the anguish of worrying about public opinion and saving all the bother and expense of courts, parole boards, etc.
- Carlton Television to rechristen itself "Hollywood Television" (don't say you haven't been watching *Hollywood Kids*).
- Oprah Winfrey to present Thought for the Day. Why not? *She's the world's best-known commentator on the meaning of life.*
- Some hint that Stephen Dorrell, the Heritage Secretary, has a flicker of enthusiasm for the art or tradition of broadcasting.
- *Spitting Image* to get some scripts worthy of its puppets.
- A remote channel-changer that glows in the dark.
- A camcorder in every home to demystify television.
- Some television awards for the great new genre of the very short programme which the camcorder has helped to bring about: notably BBC2's *Video Nation* and Channel 4's *Belfast Lessons*. Real people, real voices — what will they think of next?
- Jazz to vanish from Radio 3 to reappear on *Radio 2 where it* belongs.
- Channel 4 to accept it cannot have its "money back" unless ITV gets something in return.
- An award to Moira Stuart for being the best-dressed woman on television.
- Contact lenses for HM the Queen, coupled with a new hairdresser. Maybe money can't buy happiness but it can buy a new look.
- A woman stand-up comic who does not mention pre-menstrual tension. (Did *anybody* laugh at Victoria Wood on Christmas Night?).
- A Scott Inquiry report and a BBC *Cold Comfort Farm* that live up to all that is expected of them.
- A peace in Ireland so genuine that British politicians can abandon the politically correct *taoiseach* and say "the Irish prime minister" instead. They don't call Ireland Eire, for God's sake.
- Cameras in the courtrooms.
- Television sets in the prison cell (better than slop buckets)
- John Birt, the BBC's Director-General, to be as good at handling journalists as he is with politicians.
- *Channel 4 News* at 7pm to appear in Wales as in the rest of the United Kingdom.
- More news reporting from South America — for Britain, the real dark continent.
- A recognition by high-minded American journalists that sexual standards are intrinsic to politics, not just a sleazy British import.
- A happy, healthy year for the Queen Mother and a ban on news of the royal children, for their sakes and ours.

To dream of a year free of stories of royal or presidential love life is Utopian. I'd settle quite happily instead for a period free of mention of the private life of David Mellor.

Tuned into the big time

NEWS TEAM



A billboard for Heart FM in Birmingham, the station launched by Chrysalis, which is attacking Radio 1 and Radio 2's audience in the city

Listeners and advertisers are very taken with commercial radio. **Stephen Armstrong** on the BBC's unhappy year

At the beleaguered fortress that is Broadcasting House, the senior management of BBC Radio is looking back on a year which delivered nothing but disaster and is gazing forward to a 1995 that offers little comfort. Already unofficial audience figures from Birmingham suggest that Heart FM, the new soft rock station launched by Chrysalis, is destroying both Radio 1 and Radio 2's listening in the city. Chrysalis has won a licence for a similar service in London which goes on air in mid-1995 and BBC management fears the same collapse in the capital.

"If this level of audience performance continues as soft rock licences spread around Britain, only Radio 4 will be safe. It will probably become the BBC's strongest network," an insider says. "Radio 5 Live is looking weak if next year's national commercial station, Talk Radio UK, pulls off a successful launch."

This is an inevitable problem with the recent expansion of commercial radio. Management, headed by Liz Forgan, managing director of BBC network radio, does not know how to react. If Radio 2 takes Heart FM on head to head, it will probably alienate faithful listeners. If it fails to rise to the challenge, it will lose the younger element of its audience and, like *The Daily Telegraph* in the 1980s, find that many of its older listeners are dying. Radio 1 is not turning around its audience fall, and privately many Radio 1 employees believe it is not possible to make any significant gains.

The landscape that stretches ahead of the BBC is daunting enough without commercial radio whooping it up over its huge success. Yet commercial radio does have much to celebrate. In 1994 it came of age and, for a 21st birthday present, it could ask for little more than to overtake the BBC's audience figures — 27.7 million listeners tuned in between June and September while 27.6 million remained loyal to the BBC. This is the highest audience share the industry has ever taken. As commercial radio reached its majority it also lost its oldest station, LBC, which was forced to hand its licence to London Radio in October.

The success of commercial radio suddenly means there is serious money to be made. Radio, and particularly music radio, has always been a great business. Overheads stretch to a roof, a mike, a DJ, some records and a transmitter. That's why there are pirate radio stations but no pirate TV stations. As long as the cash comes rolling in, most of it goes straight to the bottom line. Cash has always been a problem, but 1994 saw advertisers start spending seriously.

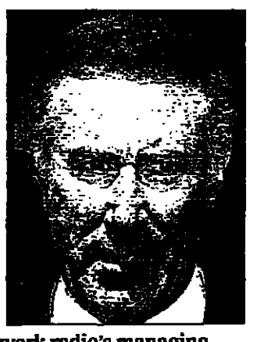
Historically, UK radio has taken only 2 per cent of all advertising revenue. In practically every other country in the world, radio takes 8 per cent or more. Through a combination of factors, this year saw radio revenue climb to 4 per cent. In hard money terms, this means the industry has taken £229.2 million in advertising, sponsorship and promotions up to September 1994, with more to come. Large radio groups such as London's Capital Radio, Metro Radio in Newcastle, and Scottish Radio in Glasgow, are turning in profit increases of 53 per cent, 96 per cent and 74 per cent respectively.

"Radio's success is partly due to the new national stations such as Classic FM, Virgin 1215 and Atlantic 252," Lucy Broke, media analyst at stockbroker James Capel, says. "But the local industry has done well. It has got itself more organised and consolidated with takeovers like Capital Radio taking over Southern Radio at the start of the year. It has also started to reap the rewards of its generic marketing body, the Radio Advertising Bureau."

Ms Broke says new entrants to radio — such as Chrysalis, Virgin and publishing giant EMAP — are increasing City confidence in the medium. James Capel is predicting that commercial radio will go through the 5 per cent advertising revenue mark by 1997.

"What we need — and if rumours are to be believed we might get early in 1995 — is a lifting of the media ownership restrictions," Ms Broke says. "That will propel radio forward enormously. The Heritage Department could tinker with radio and secondary legislation as it did with ITV at the beginning of 1994."

The commercial industry is looking forward to 1995. Talk of a Green Paper on broadcasting should allow stations to expand further and February sees the launch of the national speech service, Talk Radio UK. Richard Littlejohn and Andrew Neil are said to be ready to sign up. Jeremy Beadle and *The Word*'s Terry Christian are also rumoured to be considering offers. If commercial radio can lure these figures next year, its days as the pariah of the media industry are over. That is good news for the independent sector, but the cheers of commercial delight must send shivers round the BBC.



For Liz Forgan, BBC network radio's managing director, problems; for Andrew Neil, offers

Alan Mitchell on self-fulfilment as a means of selling

A growing trend to let you grow

Question: What do Nike, Microsoft, Bupa and Apple computers have in common? Answer: their recent commercials may indicate a new wave in advertising where marketers move beyond selling us new, improved products or glossy images and instead offer us self-fulfilment.

In its restless search for freshness, adland is always coming up with different ways of communicating its messages. According to a research project by DMB&B, the advertising agency, ever since the television commercial was invented in the 1950s it has appeared in only three core forms. Now a fourth form is beginning to emerge.

The first, and archetypal, TV commercial is the demonstration of unique product benefit, as practised over decades (and with great effect) by soap companies such as Procter & Gamble. The message is simple: buy us because we are better. You can still see classic examples: Volvo and its safety-based ads; Ariel colour, with its claim that it doesn't bleach out colour, and so on.

The second strand, which has similar vintage, is icon branding. These are rare but ubiquitous global leaders and consumers realise that, by buying them, they are taking part in something that is much bigger than them. Icon brands often deliberately create symbolic worlds to which consumers would like to belong, such as Coca-Cola's "I'd like to teach the world to sing" image.

The third category, the identity brand, is currently less fashionable, says Sally Ford-Hutchinson, executive planning director of DMB&B. This emerged in the 1970s when manufacturers were finding it harder to find a unique selling proposition and market researchers, using new qualitative research techniques such as focus groups, started teasing out new dimensions in consumer psychology.

They discovered that far from offering simple functional pluses, successful brands also brought with them a range of "emotional benefits". These could, in theory, be used to sell anything: by linking a product to an emotion or a type of person, consumers would see it as something "for people like me".

Thus Oxo wasn't sold primarily on what it could do for cooking, its main message was that if you want to be a perfect mum like Katie, then you too will buy Oxo. The high point of this type of advertising were those 1980s commercials where some superior, glamorous power-dressed twenty-something "yuppie" would come off a transatlantic flight; whip a computer out of a briefcase; step out of some flash sporty car; or drink a cup of coffee to wow friend and foe alike and revel in a future of unlimited wealth and egoism.

Ms Ford-Hutchinson says that "nowadays people don't want to be seen to be victims of fashion and advertising hype". Yet, at the same time, not all brands can revert to simplistic product benefit advertising, and few can attain the status of icon brands. So where next?

Agencies have tried "real people" in adverts, self-referential advertising where commercials take the mickey out of other commercials, even "interactive" commercials which require viewers to do something more than be couch potatoes. But, somehow, all of these experiments seem gimmicky.

A fourth, new model commercial could, however, save marketers' bacon, Ms Ford-Hutchinson says. This is the "explorer" brand where the commercial, far from making absolute promises about what will happen if you buy it, simply suggests its opening-up possibilities. It is a brand which "allows me to develop, helps me to grow. It is a challenge to the user", she says. Thus, Nike ads say "just do it"; ads for Apple computers boast about helping people to tap "the power within themselves, the power to succeed"; Bupa tells us we're amazing (and it wants us to stay that way), and the theme of Microsoft's new global ad campaign is "where do you want to go today?" The message being that Microsoft will help you to get there.

If Ms Ford-Hutchinson is right, the new advertising matches long-term trends in consumer psychology already identified by marketing researchers. They see consumers moving through three states, from being "sustenance driven", through "outer-directed", to being "inner directed".

Question: can advertisers use commercials to persuade cynical, advertising-literate, inner-directed consumers that their offerings will help them in their quest for self-fulfilment? Only if they are subtle enough in their approach, says Ms Ford-Hutchinson. After all, she says, the relationship between consumers and advertisers, to a degree, is an escalating arms race.

Microsoft's fresh approach appeals to the viewer's inner self

THE TIMES

Win a trip of a lifetime to the biggest party in history

Day three of *The Times* Millennium 2000 offering readers the opportunity to spend New Year's Eve 1999 crossing the International Date Line to both Fiji and the Cook Islands to see in the new millennium twice. First prize is a 28 day World Air Cruise for two culminating in New Year 1999 in Fiji and the Cook Islands to join in the festivities. The trip, which takes in Dubai, Thailand, Singapore, Tucson and Washington and Sydney and includes helicopter sightseeing over the Fijian Islands and hot-air ballooning over the Arizona desert, would cost £64,000 to book in 1999.

A second prize of a ten day stay for two in Fiji and the Cook Islands worth up to £7,000 and a third prize of two tickets chosen from any of the millennium party venues available to readers are also on offer.

And should you not be successful in the competition, you can still take part in the festivities by booking the Fiji and Cook Islands trip separately or taking advantage of our selection of deluxe party venues round the world.

The parties are the brain-child of The Millennial Foundation, a non-profit making charity whose worldwide fund raising parties go to help specific local charities. In St Petersburg, for instance, the money will help restore the Hermitage and fund the Kirov Ballet.

You could for example celebrate the dawn of the new millennium in chinese style in the Regent Hotel in Hong Kong over-looking the world's busiest harbour as it is illuminated by a 21st century fireworks display. The luxurious one week stay at this hotel which boasts seven internationally acclaimed western and Chinese restaurants all with spectacular Harbour views, commences on December 28, 1999. The cost in 1999 would be £3,250 per person, but readers can secure their places now for £2,250 each.

TOKEN 3

Question 3
Who designed the Hong Kong Shanghai Bank?

To enter the competition collect the 18 tokens and answer the 18 questions which will appear between December 26 and Saturday January 14. Send the tokens and answers on a separate sheet of paper, stating in not more than 15 words why you would like to join in the celebrations, to: The Times Millennium 2000 Competition, 5 Brittons Court, London EC88 6NG. Closing date January 31, 1995. Normal Times competition rules apply.

Details of how to book the millennium gala parties, details of which appeared on Monday will appear on Saturday. Further information about the parties can be obtained by writing to: Millennium 2000 Limited, Freepost GW 7623, Glasgow G3 7BR.

The nation's top viewing

THERE SEEMS no doubt that television viewers turn to the BBC for coverage of events of national or cultural significance, *writes Alexandra Frean.*

As our Top 20 ratings chart for the year to December 11 shows, BBC1 takes the top two places for its coverage of two one-off events — Torvill and Dean's gold-medal attempt at the Winter Olympics in February and the first draw of the National Lottery in November.

Unfortunately for BBC1, these events are few and far between — and are in some cases unrepeatable. For most of the rest of the year, the station's performance has been dismal. Only two BBC1 drama programmes make it into our chart, an edition of the soap opera *EastEnders* and an episode of the hospital drama *Casualty*.

ITV continues its dominance of the drama and light entertainment genres taking 14 of the 20 places in our chart. As ITV churns out a remarkable number of hits — *Heartbeat, London's Burning, The Bill, Soldier Soldier* and *Cracker* — and continues to back them with repeat series which allow their audiences to build up, BBC managers must be wondering why they are unable to do the same.

They must also be asking themselves what they are going to do in 1995 when they won't have the benefit of events such as the Winter Olympics and the football's World Cup to boost their overall audience share.

TIMES TV TOP 20 OF 1994

January 1 to December 11

	Programme	Date	Time	Channel	Producer	Genre	Audience (Millions) All Individuals
1	Olympic Ice-Dance Championship	21/02/94	21.00	BBC1	BBC	Sport	24.0
2	National Lottery Live	19/11/94	19.00	BBC1	BBC	Entertainment	20.2
3	Coronation Street	14/02/94	19.31	ITV	Granada Television	Soap	18.7
4	EastEnders	27/10/94	19.31	BBC1	BBC	Soap	18.3
5	Heartbeat	20/11/94	19.29	ITV	Yorkshire Television	Drama sers	17.8
6	Casualty	19/11/94	20.07	BBC1	BBC	Drama sers	17.2
7	You've Been Framed	04/09/94	20.30	ITV	Granada Television	Entertainment	17.0
8	Emmerdale	08/01/94	18.59	ITV	Yorkshire Television	Soap	16.8
9	London's Burning	20/11/94	21.01	ITV	LWT	Drama sers	16.8
10	The 1994 Grand National	09/04/94	15.51	BBC1	BBC	Sport	16.7
11	The Bill	18/03/94	20.02	ITV	Thames Television	Soap	16.5
12	Utterly Worst Of Alright On The Night	10/04/94	20.03	ITV	LWT	Entertainment	16.2
13	Soldier Soldier	22/11/94	21.01	ITV	Central Television	Drama sers	16.1
14	Grandstand	09/04/94	16.04	BBC1	BBC	Sport	15.8
15	A Touch Of Frost	30/01/94	20.16	ITV	Yorkshire Television	Drama sers	15.8
16	Do-It-Yourself Mr Bean	10/01/94	19.59	ITV	Tiger Aspect Prods	Comedy	15.6
17	It'll Be Alright On The Night	02/01/94	20.07	ITV	LWT	Entertainment	15.4
18	Licence To Kill	03/01/94	20.04	ITV	United Artists	Film	15.3
19	Cracker	05/12/94	21.00	ITV	Granada Television	Drama sers	15.2
20	Barrymore	08/01/94	19.01	ITV	LWT	Entertainment	15.1

BARB (Broadcasters' Audience Research Board)/David Graham & Associates 0823-322829
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Repeats/second transmissions not aggregated Highest editions per week only Incomplete network transmission marked (*).

هذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,720.30	Abbey Nat	434	+18	4.5	14.7
1,793.83	Allied Irish	270	+16	4.7	10.4
2,781.80	Aus New Z	209	+7	6.0	..
9,013.20	Bank America	2575	-50	..	..
2,454.91	Bank Scotland	210	+3	3.2	11.8
10,038.50	Barclays	614	+9½	3.4	15.3
1,339.70	Bk of Ireland†	285	+8	4.9	8.5
10,413.30	Citicorp	2575	-18½	..	..
215.20	Coutts Bros	328	-1	4.1	..
4,376.90	Commerzbk	£132⅞	+42¾	6.1	..
28,553.80	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1234½	+65½	0.4	..
14,048.50	Deutsche Bk	£296⅝	+403⅜	2.3	..
171.50	Espirito Santo	803½	-15½	4.8	4.0
98.70	First Nat Fin	58½	..	..	..
40,749.70	Fuji Bank Y	1405½	+33½	0.4	..
402.40	Hambros†	228	-5	8.2	14.0
6,168.50	HSBC	724	+24½	4.2	10.5
12,595.00	HSBC 75	718	-29	4.3	10.4
21.80	Joseph (L)	408	-2	5.4	11.9
731.00	Kleinwort Ben	548	+25	4.4	5.7
7,341.00	Lloyds	566	+11	5.1	11.1
7,067.90	Nat Aust Bk	528	-20	7.0	..
8,849.40	Nat West	516	+12	4.7	10.1
107.50	Ottoman Bank	2150	..	6.8	..
25.60	Rea Bros	66	+4	1.8	18.2
3,163.90	Royal Bk Scot	395	-8	4.4	9.6
1,480.00	Schroders	1480	-62	1.6	13.6
388.30	Schroders N/V	1339	-46	1.7	12.3
167.00	Singer & Fried	86	+½	4.6	11.1
2,689.60	Stand Chart	279	-3	2.9	9.6
7,562.50	TSB	254	-2½	4.3	11.8
1,504.80	Warburg SG	684	-26	4.0	12.5
5,255.90	Wells Fargo	9487½	+125	2.8	..
3,951.20	Westpac	217	-3½	2.5	..
18.10	Wintrust	213	..	6.0	14.2

BREWERIES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
612.50	Ascot Hldgs	165	+15	..	..
4,513.40	Bass†	517	+4½	5.1	13.8
310.50	Boddington	356	+2	4.1	13.8
36.80	Burtonwd Brwy	177	..	3.6	14.8
30.40	Eldridge P 'A'	156	-4	3.2	..
1,809.10	Fosters Brewing	59	+1	5.1	..
69.80	Fuller Smi 'A'†	342	-½	2.9	14.1
903.30	Greenalls Grp	432	-2	3.9	21.0
223.30	Greene King	528	+13	3.1	14.6
61.20	Hardy Hanson	245	+4	4.9	..
3.48	Hesslee	150	..	3.4	13.5
185.00	Holt J	3385	-25	1.8	18.6
153.40	Mansfield	239	+4½	2.4	14.6
272.70	Marston Thmpr	303	+4	2.5	14.7
100.40	Morland†	465	-3	2.8	14.0
7.04	Paramount	7	..	3.6	..
45.50	Regent Inns	303	+11	2.2	23.7
4,041.20	SA Breweries	1456½	..	2.0	22.4
2,723.40	Scot & New	510	+7½	4.3	14.4
308.50	Vaux Group†	721	+1½	5.6	14.0
169.10	Wetherspoon JD	441	+7	1.9	24.3
2,986.30	Whitbread†	571	+24	4.2	15.6
345.80	Wolverhamptn Dt	529	+5	3.3	13.7
73.00	Yates Brost	188	..	2.5	14.8
13.50	Young 'A'	465	..	4.0	19.7

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
53.50	Abbey	158	+6	4.8	10.1
52.10	Allen†	161	..	4.3	13.1
137.60	Amec†	68	+2½	5.5	39.2
19.30	Andrews Sykes	135	+3	..	..
126.40	Ashtead	420	+10	1.6	26.6
45.29	Avonside	104	..	5.3	12.2
3.66	Bailey (Ben) Con	35	+1	2.5	21.4
7.86	Barcom	41	+3	..	..
295.30	Barratt Devs	162	+6	4.6	12.6
376.30	Beazer Homes	134	+3	5.0	10.5
181.90	Bellway†	186	+4	4.7	..
14.40	Bellwinch	32	..	..	28.1
269.70	Berkeley Grt	348	+2½	2.6	14.5
26.70	Bett Brost	178	-1	3.2	5.5
56.90	Bool (Henry)	218	..	3.8	10.7
13.30	Brandon Hire	90	+7	2.1	..
17.90	Br Bldg & Engt	160	..	6.2	10.0
344.80	Bryant	124	+1	5.0	13.9
45.80	CALA	106	..	3.3	14.6
4.38	Campbell & Arm	34½	-½	..	..
6.02	Clarke T	49	..	3.2	41.6
108.80	Costain	21	-½	..	..
84.60	Countryside	119	+2	4.9	..
73.30	Crest Nicholson	74	..	2.7	13.7
17.30	Cussins	97	-1	4.4	11.7
9.17	Ermond Hldgs	18	-3	2.1	..
27.70	Eve Group	263	-7	4.9	11.4
24.00	Galliford	27	+1	4.6	..
1.53	Gibbs & Dandy	88	..	3.8	..
83.60	Gleeson (MJ)†	828	..	2.1	14.2
6.63	Green (Ernst)	86	..	8.7	26.5
45.60	Havelock Euro	175	+2	2.1	16.0
321.40	Hewden-Stuart	140	+1	2.7	16.1
61.60	Higgs & Hill	93	+1	3.4	..
5.63	Howard Hldgs	22	..	4.5	20.5
3.98	Jarvis	11	..	..	..
63.30	Keller	113	+1	4.2	11.3
102.10	Laing (J)	223	+2	5.0	20.2
37.90	Laing 6¼% Cv Pf	94½	+1½	8.5	..
11.10	Lon Clydeside	122	..	4.9	16.9
24.00	Lovell (YJ)	60	+2	2.1	6.5
52.20	Maunders (J)	209	-4	3.3	..
118.90	McAlpine (A)	172	+16	4.7	25.2
59.00	McCarthy & S	60	..	..	..
176.30	Mowlem (J)	101	+4	2.5	..
234.80	Persimmon	201	+15	5.7	15.1
21.90	Pochins	2109½	..	1.9	21.1
96.90	Prowting†	125	..	3.6	19.0
92.20	Raine Ind	49	+4	7.7	10.2
4.82	Secure Retire	46	..	..	14.9
228.80	Redrow	104	+1	3.2	10.3
9.24	Swift-Rive	59	..	1.6	27.8
48.40	Sheelt Hldgs	384	+1	1.9	15.9
5.09	Sharon	109	-1	4.2	15.3
21.20	Smart (J)	210	..	5.1	22.0
100.60	Spandex	256	..	1.2	20.5
47.90	Tay Homes	164	+4	4.9	12.1
505.40	Taylor Woodrw	130	+7	1.7	31.8
192.00	Tilbury Dougls	566	+5	7.3	43.5
5.96	Tonic Hire	58	+3	1.9	30.2
13.80	Try Group	29	-1	3.1	..
50.20	Vibroplant	169	..	4.2	19.8
72.80	Walshmoret	117	..	5.2	12.8
26.80	Ward Hldgs	51	..	1.2	..
91.90	Westbury†	158	+7	4.8	12.6
24.50	Wiggins	5½	-½	..	..
365.90	Wilson (C)	161	+2	3.3	13.4
302.60	Wilson Bowdn	324	+7	3.7	14.5
476.40	Wimpey G	132	-2	5.0	19.7

BUILDING MATERIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
10.10	Albrighton	14	..	4.5	13.3
104.80	Alumasc	398	..	2.2	..
20.90	Amberley Gp	49	..	3.2	26.7
1,471.80	BPB Ind†	284	+12	3.6	15.1
48.20	Baggeridge Brk	124	..	3.2	..
185.89	Barlow	33½	+3	7.5	..
348.40	Berisford Intl	#228	+½	0.3	..
16.60	Blockleys	67	..	1.7	..
2,125.80	Blue Circle	292	+20	4.8	20.7
22.20	Breedon PLC	78	-1	7.4	22.3
22.80	Br Dredging	130	..	5.4	15.8
1,249.90	CRH	355	+20	2.7	18.0
2.00	Cakebread Rby	38	..	..	4.1
108.80	Capel	203	+4	6.8	12.9
1,542.80	Caradon	258	+4	4.3	17.1
234.90	Caradon pf	130½	+4	6.9	..
4.62	Chelsfield Gp	54	..	8.1	10.8
1.35	Dyson (J&J)	112	+3	3.9	16.9
8.88	Dyson 'A'	72	+3	6.1	10.8
18.20	Eclipse Blinds	13	+2½	..	..
59.40	Epwin	275	..	3.6	16.3
27.50	Eris	58	..	3.0	32.7
196.00	Graham Grp	177	+3	3.4	16.3
102.00	Halstead (J)	341	-3	2.7	15.7
777.00	Hepworth	320	+12	5.8	18.2
7.91	Hewetson	85	..	2.2	14.7
4.58	Hewitt (J)	135	..	2.2	..
258.90	Heywd Wms	270	+10	6.2	15.2
201.60	Ibstock	80½	+3½	1.6	..
27.70	Johnston	362	..	2.1	31.5
30.70	Lilleshall	108	..	5.4	11.3
387.00	Marley	135	+4	3.9	16.0
164.00	Marshalls	134	+1	4.2	11.8
451.10	Meyer Intl	358	+11	3.8	13.9
200.90	Newman Tnks	166	+1	4.8	21.0
188.80	Norcros†	108	+7½	8.1	30.5
4.18	Phoenix Timber	12	+1	..	..
1,292.89	Pilkington†	162	+1	3.1	31.2
207.00	Polypipe	132	+3	2.2	15.2
1,877.40	RMC Gp	853	+5	2.8	18.7
4.88	Ramus	17	..	..	..
2,398.30	Redland	463	+17	6.7	21.4
14.70	Roskel	98	..	5.5	..
752.60	Rugby Group	120	+10	3.6	15.1
20.60	Russell (A)	89	..	3.2	18.3
192.40	SIG	260	+5	2.7	20.9
4.13	SMP	16½	..	1.5	23.8
37.60	Sharpe & Fisher	179	+2	3.1	13.1
185.80	Spring Ram	41	-½	1.5	..
1,133.40	Tarmac	123	+3	5.6	..
17.50	Tiace	168	-1	3.5	..
292.70	Travis Perkins	285	..	3.6	17.6
2.82	Tudor	24	..	1.3	..
11.30	Unigroup	36	..	..	..
1.20	Waterhouse	48	..	..	..
338.30	Wickes	91	+1	1.8	20.4
2,145.80	Wolseley†	780	+23	2.7	15.4

BUSINESS SERVICES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
16.10	Anglo Utd	1½	-½	..	..
18.70	App Holo	85	..	..	..
331.10	Aboredst	117	-3½	5.3	..
3.57	Bailey (CH)	6½	..	..	..
11.60	Black Arrowt	47	..	8.2	7.5
3.00	Br Bloodstock	77	+3	..	69.1
3.29	Card Gp	5½	..	..	18.0
2.85	Chemex	6½	..	1.9	..
18.00	Cosalt†	140	..	7.1	9.9
57.50	Filofax	217	..	1.2	18.6
7.09	Headway	44	..	2.0	34.2
81.60	Heywood	258	+5	3.8	..
185.60	Leigh†	160	-2	6.1	14.8
27.80	Nobo Gp	227	+3	3.3	14.6
158.00	Photo-Me†	282	+6	2.3	27.3
17.90	Plant & Bee†	36	+1	3.9	..
173.20	Plaxtonst	173	..	2.5	20.4
8.96	Porth Group	5	-1	..	..
17.00	Rodime	11½	+1½	..	..
154.70	Shanks & McEwan†	84	+5	3.1	..
39.90	Sinclair (Wm)	183	..	4.8	14.1
1,360.20	Waste Mgt Intl	966	-25	..	12.8

CHEMICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
684.80	Allied Colloids	130	+4	2.3	18.3
30.50	Amber Ind†	780	..	3.4	15.5
7,518.20	BASF DM	£128½	+585¾	3.6	..
3,422.50	BOC†	716	+6	4.3	25.4
305.80	BTP†	293	+7½	4.4	18.5
9,685.40	Bayer DM50	£144¾	+687¾	3.1	..
73.00	Brent Chems	108	+5	4.6	..
500.20	Br Vita	230	+2	4.1	17.1
3.40	Cambridge Iso	26	+7	..	..
51.80	Canning (W)	183	..	5.9	31.0
1,853.80	Courtaulds†	460	+16½	4.1	31.4
502.70	Croda	380	+3	2.8	16.3
14.09	Doeflex	132	+1	4.4	13.3
17.80	Euro Colour†	58½	..	2.9	18.9
11.10	Gibbons	12	+2	5.7	11.0
214.40	Hickson	152	-4	8.2	10.9
7,993.10	Hoechst	£135¼	+590¾	2.7	..
210.90	Holliday Chem	203	..	2.7	16.6
5,574.80	ICI	770	+24	4.5	62.2
158.00	Kalon	116½	+6	4.7	11.0
1,361.80	Laporte	710	+13	3.7	18.0
29.70	MTM	60	..	8.8	..
119.90	Manders	292	..	4.3	14.2
68.10	McLeod Russell†	113	..	6.9	..
15.90	Metrolect	66	-½	6.5	8.9
22,918.10	Monsanto	449½	+3½	4.4	28.7
45.00	Porvair	230	..	1.9	21.8
455.80	Scapa†	192	+1	3.5	15.8
18.69	Stnclife Speak	33	+4	2.7	19.4
6,757.10	Takeda Chem	772½	+12½	0.8	14.3
83.40	Wardle Storeys†	335	-5	6.4	18.7
45.20	Wellington Hdg	181	..	3.4	18.5
58.30	Wolstenholme R	788	-5	3.8	16.5
169.00	Yorks Chem	356	+2	2.9	15.4
279.80	Yule Catto	279	-1	2.8	21.2

DISTRIBUTORS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
28.30	ABI Leist	105	+½	4.8	..
52.70	Acol†	299	+1	2.9	16.2
35.01	Adam & Harvey	585	+5	3.3	13
8.25	Alexander	21	..	3.0	18.5
75.00	Appleyard	113	-1	6.4	19.9
11.83	Ass Br Eng	4½	..	1.4	58.8
134.70	BSS Group†	514	+½	4.4	18.1
7.14	Beating Powert	21	..	6.0	..
16.00	Bletchley Mtr	260	-5	5.0	10.7
1.36	Boyed 'A'	28	+½	3.1	9.6
156.90	Bremner	349	+4	4.7	19.4
4.41	Bridgend Grp	16	..	1.6	..
20.70	Brd Tillings	87	+5	1.2	..
13.09	Brown & Jackson	40	-1	..	..
33.19	Burndene	37	-3	6.7	..
8.89	Cahyrst	268	..	5.4	18.1
25.00	Caskel	20½	..	5.2	14.7
12.03	Central Mtr	80	..	5.0	21.8
16.90	Cook (DC)†	39½	+1	3.6	12.1
360.60	Cowie	224	+15	5.1	11.1
33.30	Dag Motors	138	..	5.9	15.9
25.90	Dennore L	593	..	1.4	16.6
228.10	Diploma†	426	+11½	4.0	..
982.60	Electrocomponts†	472	+6	2.7	19.3
39.50	Electron House	157	+6	2.5	16.2
218.50	Erie & Everard	362	-7	3.6	19.4
100.00	Eccoroptic	204	..	5.2	16.0
58.40	European Mtr	109	-1	5.2	11.8
123.80	Evans Halshaw	400	..	4.4	12.6
694.29	Farnell Elect	515	-3	1.9	21.1
7.51	File Industr	61	+1	5.6	9.0
17.20	Gardiner	16	..	6.9	7.8
5.71	Glencharleston	19½	..	..	21.5
6.64	Gowrings	73	+2	3.4	22.2
36.10	Hallam Hdgs	71	-1	..	55.4
15.60	Hams (Philip)†	145	+4	5.9	12.7
129.70	Henlys	272	-½	3.4	14.8
2.87	Heddies Tech	93	..	8.2	10.0
43.90	ICA Ind	110	..	1.9	13.7
2,288.10	Inchcape†	435	+1	4.3	14.5
6.06	Jacks (Wm)	56	-2	..	13.0
281.30	Kwik-Fit	163	+6	3.1	18.7
285.90	Lex Service	300	+8	5.6	11.5
37.80	Lookers	194	..	4.4	12.1
13.99	Matara Grp	14½	+½	2.2	..
46.20	Meddlesex C	8½	..	..	..
44.30	Norbain	426	+3	0.7	20.4
15.50	Normanbart	91	+½	1.6	38.6
13.49	PCT	152	..	6.1	14.7
97.80	Pendragon	253	-2	3.7	16.6
40.70	Perry Gp	161	..	5.4	8.8
30.10	Quicks Group	131	-2	5.0	13.8
12.80	REA	158	..	4.7	32.7
3.54	Reece	2¾	..	..	..
8.41	Ross Gp	6	+1½	4.2	..
31.00	SEP Ind	38½	+5	3.5	..
14.80	TLS Range	41	+4	3.0	16.5
132.40	Time Products†	231	-4	4.7	15.5
69.90	Vardy (Reg)	151	..	3.8	14.3
34.80	Wholesale Ftgs	245	..	6.0	..
33.30	Wills Gp	19	+4	3.3	10.7
57.49	Witchet	69	-2	1.2	23.3
19.40	Wyko	60	+2	1.0	..
11.30	Young (H)†	68	..	6.6	..

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
128.60	Adwest	156½	+½	6.0	16.0
515.50	Arcolectric	328	-15	1.4	26.5
17.70	Armour†	48½	..	4.6	10.1
16,436.20	Broken Hill	992	+47	2.2	37.8
10,732.10	BTR	295	+14½	5.3	15.8
13,714.90	BAT†	445	+13	5.9	11.6
112.50	Bixby (J)	72	+7	5.2	..
1,230.70	Bnerley Inv	47½	+½	9.6	..
675.40	Chatert	783	-14	3.6	22.4
1,330.80	Cookson	236	-3	3.4	21.3
12,135.40	Hanson	234½	+4½	6.4	16.2
999.10	Harrison Crstld	142	-2	7.9	16.2
9,696.70	Hutch Whamp	268½	+10½	2.1	18.9
3,274.90	Jardine Math	455¾	-9¾	3.3	10.2
6.21	Jourdan (T)t	29	..	4.3	28.8
1,174.80	Lonrho	152	+3½	3.3	41.7
38.20	Porter Chadbn	40½	+½	..	..
346.20	Powell Duffryn†	520	-3	6.2	14.8
29.60	Rapport	128	..	7.3	14.5
3,027.00	Redmarst	456	-14½	5.3	22.1
29.70	Saltire▲	12	..	..	4.6
2,852.50	Sime Darby▼	135	..	3.2	17.2
194.50	Staveley†	170	-6	6.2	49.7
182.40	Suter	156	+1	7.5	15.0
388.40	TI Group	248	+12	2.3	..
2,598.20	Tomkins	220	+6	4.2	14.1
793.60	Trafalgar H	74	..	1.7	..
57.40	Unitare	295	..	3.6	15.2
543.70	Wassall	382	+6½	1.6	24.2
16.20	Wideley	10½	+½	2.4	..
1,672.70	Williams Hldg	324	+10	5.0	20.0

ELECTRICITY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,580.70	East Midlands	819	+9	4.3	34.1
1,984.60	Eastern Grp	769	+2	4.1	16.6
1,519.10	London Elec	745	+2	4.2	11.2
967.70	Manweb	840	-19	4.1	9.9
1,515.30	Midlands Elec	795	-33	4.0	12.1
6,294.80	National Powert	491	+20	3.3	13.5
1,125.70	Northern Elec	1006	+21	3.4	12.5
589.30	Nthn Ireland	356	-10	4.2	9.6
1,336.50	Norweb†	830	+40½	3.7	11.0
4,168.40	PowerGen	531	+28	3.2	11.5
1,239.40	Hydro-Elect	323	-5	5.1	10.1
2,823.40	Scottish Power	346	+9	4.7	10.8
1,158.70	Seeboard†	462	-10	3.4	12.2
820.30	Sth Wales	859	+8	4.3	11.5
1,019.80	Sth Western	865	+10	3.7	11.4
2,143.60	Southern Elec	791	-5	3.9	11.4
1,437.90	Yorkshire Elec	689	+2	4.5	13.3

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
66.00	Acorn Comp	98	..	..	..
72.40	Admiral	635	..	1.3	19.5
94.40	Alba	200	+4	3.2	15.5
155.80	Amstrad	134	..	2.3	..
26.00	Arlen	35	+2	..	..
260.80	Astec	84½	+1½	1.3	17.3
29.30	Azlen	134	-2	2.8	10.8
1,257.70	BICC†	356	+19	6.8	22.4
28.00	Beales Hunter	244	..	5.0	..
6.33	Berkeley Bus	8	+½	..	..
131.20	Block	430	+7	3.4	..
540.00	Bowthorpe	390	+2	3.0	16.7
4.94	Bugle (AF) 'A'	19	+2½	1.6	11.1
37.90	CML Micro	204	-4	3.7	13.0
23.10	Chloride†	23	+2½	0.5	64.4
11.60	Copymaster	110	-70	4.9	..
387.00	Cray Elect	163	+6	1.7	19.0
64.50	Crichley	461	+1	2.3	18.4
636.80	Dania Bs Syst	355	+11	0.6	24.6
867.10	Delta	448	-6	4.1	19.2
146.50	Domino	353	-2	1.9	23.8
106.80	Dowding Mills	72	+3	4.4	20.3
94.10	Druck	1470	+5	0.9	27.4
2,335.60	Electrolux 'B'	3278½	+78½	1.6	55.3
31.60	Emess	29¼	+¼	0.4	..
7,170.70	Ericsson 'B'	3609½	+168½	1.1	31.0
33.90	Eurocopy	70	+1	3.5	..
365.40	Eurotherm	400	+7	1.7	..
321.20	Farley Group	400	+6	2.0	21.2
16.10	Forward Grt	195	+12	3.5	12.0
13.90	Forward Tech	41	+2	2.3	8.5
7,581.60	GEC†	276½	+7½	5.0	13.9
231.20	Gestetner	117	+12	2.6	..
89.00	Gaseby	138	-3	5.4	13.0
55.10	Ind Control	138	..	4.5	11.6
146.40	Kenwood App	319	-4	3.7	15.6
307.60	Kershaw (A)	805	-5	3.9	40.7
5.08	Kode	54	-4	8.3	..
3.95	LPA Ind	44	..	4.5	..
53.80	MTL Inst	299	..	1.8	18.0
121.90	Memec-Sw	250	..	2.1	19.5
22.30	Microvitec	35	-½	..	17.5
228.10	Midel	217	+1	..	..
30.50	Murray Ent▼	115	..	2.3	..
8.04	Orbis†	22	+1½	3.6	..
2.82	Pacer Systems	60	..	7.4	21.7
97.90	Peak†	82	-1	5.2	20.6
6,426.50	Philips Lmp Nv	1912½	+58½	1.0	8.7
14.20	Philips Fn 4%	£110	..	5.2	..
33.50	Pilco	349	-4	1.6	23.9
22.60	Pilco 'A' Vtg	327	-4	1.7	22.4
5.58	Plasmec	120	..	3.8	..
35.10	Pressac▼	95	..	3.7	18.3
9.77	Prestwick	24	..	..	..
56.10	Psion	250	..	1.5	17.5
618.40	Racal Elect†	220	+9½	2.6	18.1
8.30	Radamec	45	..	5.3	12.3
126.00	Roxboro	233	-6	2.4	17.0
6.39	Scantronic	17½	-3	6.0	..
25.00	Sherwinds	39	..	2.6	23.2
6.27	Soundtracks	82	+1	4.8	14.1
46.40	Siew Bus	48	+10	9.7	7.5
0.85	TDS Circuits	9½	..	..	..
4,057.60	TDK	3084½	+128½	1.0	..
93.00	Tadpole Tech	375	-1	..	..
72.30	Telemetrix	79	+2	1.6	10.1
20.20	TGI†	94	+3½	3.0	17.5
118.40	Telspec	367	+23	0.9	44.3
29.90	Thorpe FW	233	+3	1.7	17.1
3.53	Total Systems	35	-1	..	36.4
82.30	Toxstat	251	-2½	1.9	..
240.80	Unitech	350	-1	2.3	27.4
19.90	Verity▲	8	..	..	24.2
101.80	Volex†	384	+1½	8.0	16.1
16.50	Wakebourne	79	+1	..	..
78.80	Whitecroft†	162	+1	2.7	17.8

ENGINEERING

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
23.80	AIM	168	+2	3.3	44.8
158.60	APV	54	-4	18.2	..
144.50	ASW	215	..	3.7	..
17.10	Aero Hambie	30	-1	15.6	3.0
6.27	Aerospace Eng	18½	+½	5.8	46.1
22.80	Alvis	41	+1	3.1	..
37.80	Ash & Lacy	143	..	5.8	14.8
57.50	Avis Equip	553	+6	5.0	18.4
12.10	Ayrshire Metal	121	..	1.5	14.8
51.00	BM Gp	46	+1½	..	..
248.50	Babcock	29½	+1½	..	..
64.50	BWD†	135	+1	6.2	20.7
117.50	Baynes (Charles)	81½	-2½	2.7	20.9
9.15	Beauford	39	+3	..	..
1.80	Bilson (J)	111	..	6.0	8.9
180.10	Bodycote†	311	..	2.2	21.2
2.82	Booth Inds	73	+3	..	..
12.20	Brainby	15½	-½	4.3	15.5
89.80	Bolton	157	..	..	..
1,836.00	Br Aerospace	432	+3½	2.6	37.9
3,158.20	Br Steel†	159½	..	2.8	18.9
66.80	Bromsgrove Ind	92	..	8.1	11.7
4.76	Brooke Tool	12½	..	..	..
190.06	Bullough	157	-1	4.8	23.8
24.70	Burnfield	72	-1	3.2	30.9
12.10	CI Group†	14	..	2.7	..
180.60	Carclo Eng	262	+3	4.3	17.1
61.20	Castlegst	144	..	2.5	17.7
10.60	Clayhithe	150	..	5.6	9.5
69.80	Charnting	309	+2	4.2	..
14.20	Clyde Blowers†	181	..	4.3	..
254.00	Cobham	538	+12	2.8	16.8
4.14	Cohen (A)	533	-2	0.8	..
105.00	Concentric†	193	+10	4.0	..
53.00	Danks (Wm)	241	-2	3.9	11.3
125.30	David Brown	218	-3	2.8	15.4
8.70	Dobson Park▲	70	-3	6.9	..
174.00	EIS	380	..	4.1	15.3
12.80	Elliott (B)†	95	..	2.6	14.2
33.20	Expamet	89	-4	3.7	63.1
655.90	FKI	149½	-4½	3.6	16.8
95.40	Fenner†	138	+1	7.4	64.2
6.48	Forum	26	..	..	..
38.80	GEI Intl	76	+4	4.0	14.3
4.61	Garton Eng	121	-1	4.8	..
694.30	Glynwed	333	-3	4.4	19.5
34.30	Graystone	12½	..	2.4	10.6
83.50	Haden MacLe	76	+4	3.3	19.8
9.27	Hadleigh†	128	-1	3.4	14.5
47.90	Hall Eng	150	-15	6.7	11.7
429.10	Halma†	215	..	1.5	25.2
34.30	Hampson Ind	58	..	4.6	10.4
3.90	Hay (Norman)	26	..	..	..
44.60	Hill & Smith	134	..	5.4	14.5
42.20	Hopkinsons	54	+2	3.8	..
15.40	How Gp	37	+3	2.6	..
284.70	Howden	91	+5	3.3	15.0
165.90	Hunting	170½	+5	7.3	24.3
121.70	Huntleigh Tec	430	+2	1.5	30.0
1,028.80	IMI	315	-3	4.0	28.8
58.00	Johnson & FB	42	+1½	..	..
1,041.30	Johnson Matthey†	543½	-3½	2.8	20.3
7.71	Jones Stapman	30	..	..	..
10.10	Kelsey Ind	328	+36	5.1	..
18.70	Locat	265	+1	3.3	16.5
3.45	Locker (T) A†	11½	-½	4.3	..
55.40	ML Hldgs	35	..	4.1	12.2
7.13	MS Intl	26	..	7.2	15.7
22.60	Mang Bronze	137	..	3.6	10.7
382.30	McKechnie†	392½	+8½	4.7	23.1
161.50	Meggitt	75½	-1	6.5	12.2
84.50	Mysin	104	..	4.5	17.3
20.20	Midsec	131	..	2.9	18.2
168.30	Molins	495	-7	4.0	10.0
682.70	Morgan Cruc	312	-3	5.1	15.1
29.90	Manc Ashley	285	..	3.8	14.6
8.35	Neepsend†	34	-1	4.6	17.1
13.20	Neotronics	51	..	6.4	11.0
2.09	Newmark (L)	45	..	..	..
19.30	Obal Intl	39½	..	5.5	..
181.70	Oxford Inst	332	-6	1.9	19.5
216.40	Powerscreen†	347	..	3.8	10.4
29.10	Prospect Indst	14	+½	7.6	7.2
0.99	Radiant Metal	73	..	..	..
36.40	Ransomes	64	+5	..	..
28.00	Record	84	..	5.4	18.9
147.90	Renishaw	275	+1	3.0	23.2
122.80	Renold†	185	+½	2.0	25.8
4.86	Richards (Leics)	58	..	4.8	41.5
27.78	Richardson West	77	..	5.7	16.9
2,157.80	Rolls-Royce†	176	+4	3.6	31.0
148.60	Rotork	170	+5	3.2	17.3
31.20	Rubicon	143	+3	4.9	16.1
247.10	Senior Eng	82	..	5.2	13.4
26.60	Servomex	268	..	3.1	28.4
2,379.70	Siebe	556	+20	2.6	17.8
134.50	Simon Eng	86	-1	..	..
43.60	Six Hundred	81	+4	2.3	28.0
737.00	SKF 'B'	1156½	+18½	..	..
1,385.40	Smiths Indt	436	+4	3.1	16.8
351.70	Spirax-Sarco	452	-1	2.7	19.2
63.80	Sterling Ind	228	..	3.9	14.6
1,755.00	TI	375	+4	3.8	20.7
7.35	Tinsley (E)	102	..	7.0	16.3
57.00	Tracelet Tech	59	-1	7.0	8.4
84.10	Triplex Lloyd†	190	+3½	6.7	..
36.90	Ult Ind▼	16½	..	0.8	..
516.70	VSEL	1358	+13	3.3	12.7
21.40	Verson	14½	-½	..	..
563.60	Vickers	171	-8	2.6	18.1
107.40	Victaulic	243	+12	4.2	13.4
11.20	Villiers Grp	9½	..	..	..
217.90	Vinten†	329	-1	1.9	13.8
230.30	Vosper Thornyt	722	..	3.3	15.6
210.20	Wagon Ind	453	..	5.1	22.7
547.70	Weir	279	+6	3.0	16.6
49.10	Wellman†	40½	..	3.1	66.1
87.00	Whatman	381	+11	3.4	14.0
36.80	Wheway	125	-1	3.3	..

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
7.82	AAF Inds	34	..	..	..
13.60	Airflow Stream†	159	..	3.1	15.6
124.80	Avon Rubber†	469	+1½	4.4	..
819.70	BBA	201	-2	2.8	..
163.40	BSG†	58½	+1	7.1	35.3
12.40	Benson Group	9½	+1	4.3	13.0
47.40	Bostrom	300	..	2.5	17.1
15.10	Bowsfield	23	..	5.5	..
26.20	Camelot	11½	+½	1.6	11.9
32.00	ERF	326	+2	1.5	..
57.40	Flight Tech	369	-1	1.8	21.1
2,033.40	GKN	586	-11	4.4	34.3
17,941.20	General Mtr	2525	+112½	2.0	..
11,137.60	Honda Motor	1143½	+57½	0.4	..
488.20	Laird▼	345	-1	3.9	16.7
6.90	Lodes	345	..	..	..
1,609.90	Lucas†	202	+3	4.3	..
105.60	Mayflower	53	+3	3.3	25.6
32.30	Milestone	64	+2	..	8.9
26.90	Syltone	161	..	3.9	17.5
847.00	T & N	160	+2	8.5	13.9
165.00	Trinity Hldgs†	321	+5	2.5	23.2

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
2,619.00	AB Food	582	+19	3.5	11.9
146.80	Acatos & Hutch	265	+1	4.3	..
318.40	Albert Fisher†	45	..	10.3	15.3
18.50	Banks (S C)	215	..	5.1	8.2
71.50	Barr (AG)	375	-5	2.2	24.2
6.80	Bessons Crsp	37	-1	7.3	..
895.00	Booker†	399	-3	6.9	14.7
28.00	Borthwicks†	48½	-½	3.4	23.0
21.90	DPL Aromast	201	-2	1.9	19.2
3,577.90	Cadbury-Sch	429	+29	4.5	14.2
16.30	Cans Milling†	238	+14	3.3	..
20.10	Carrcewck	144	+3½	7.2	12.0
12.80	Dalepak	110	+2	1.7	..
857.80	Dalgety†	417	-1	6.3	11.7
4.46	Danela S	54	..	0.7	..
294.30	Devro	218	+3	3.6	14.7
16.20	Everest	64	-1	4.9	24.0
1.51	Farringford	4½	..	..	..
66.80	Finlay (James)†	67	+1	7.7	9.1
16.90	Global	14	..	4.5	12.8
26.10	Grand Central	66	+18	..	..
287.00	Hazlewood Fdst	115	+6	7.3	7.2
1,249.00	Hillsdown†	180	+4	6.1	12.8
91.80	Hobson	23½	+1	..	..
34.40	JLI Group†	83	-4½	7.3	11.7
58.30	Linton Park	346	-2	6.3	9.9
141.20	Matthews (B)	114	+4	3.0	13.7
454.90	Man ED & F	177	+5	6.2	9.6
91.50	Nichols (JN)	231	..	3.2	14.8
1,253.50	Nthn Foodst	218	+8½	5.0	11.2
6.45	Nthmbrn Fn	10½	..	..	..
3.52	Pascoe's	33	-1	..	..
81.40	Perkins Food	66	-1	8.4	11.1
3.61	Seaby Farm	84	..	3.3	8.5
26.80	Sims Food†	78	..	12.0	..
1,522.00	Tate & Lyle†	423	+5	4.3	9.7
18.50	Treatt	205	+2	2.5	18.7
806.00	Unigate†	344	+8	6.4	9.4
9,455.30	Unilever	1163	+25	2.7	16.7
11,769.20	Unilever (NV)	7325	+78½	2.9	14.8
1,720.00	Utd Biscuitst	327	+2	5.8	26.7
15.20	West Trust	36	-1	8.8	24.9
46.30	Yorkshire Food	104	+1	3.9	12.3

HEALTHCARE

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
301.70	AAH†	336	+3	6.7	11.8
488.70	Amersham†	847	-6	2.4	17.7
23.70	Anagen	51	..	..	..
34.40	Assoc Nursg	210	+2	1.3	12.2
78.30	Bespak	278	..	4.6	14.3
26.10	Care UK	8½	+1	..	..
46.30	Celsis	77	+3	..	..
65.90	Chiroscience	97	+4	..	..
42.00	Cortecs	38	..	..	..
79.70	Community H	240	-2	4.1	13.9
57.90	CrestaCare	30½	+1½	3.1	..
25.80	Enviromed†	112	-1	1.8	..
9.09	Ferraris Group†	86	..	3.3	..
67.00	Goldsborough	153	+5	1.9	..
17.70	Greenacre	10	..	4.2	13.3
14.20	Intercare Gp	50	+5	9.3	..
35.00	Isotron	280	..	2.1	..
228.90	Life Sciences	132	+4	3.9	13.1
287.80	Lon Intl	85	..	..	..
33.70	Nestor-BNA	45	-1	8.8	11.1
4.34	Premier Health	1½	..	..	..
35.40	Quality Care	253	..	2.2	14.7
69.00	Scholl	132	..	6.1	12.7
132.10	Seton Health▼	319	+1	2.7	16.3
10.40	Shield Diag	58	+1	..	..
1,670.40	Smith & Neph	153¼	+1	4.1	17.0
1.01	Specialeyes	6½	-2½	..	..
271.80	Takare	217	+17	1.2	18.9
458.40	UniChem▼	267	+8	3.2	14.4
173.90	West Hlthcare	341	+1	1.6	..

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
48.30	Airsprung†	202	-1½	3.0	12.6
9.98	BLP Group	149	-2	0.8	40.9
2.85	Bilston Batter	35	..	..	..
42.40	Cornell Pa 'A'	105	+7	6.9	23.5
7.86	Creighton Nt	170	-8	5.7	12.0
40.40	Denby Group	148	..	2.6	..
6.56	Gaskell	135	..	3.9	..
8.32	Linehead	4½	..	5.3	..
36.80	Maybom	181	-4	4.1	12.0
147.10	Orllame Ind	275	..	4.9	12.3
24.00	Osborne & Little†	392	+4	2.4	11.9
109.80	Paterson Zch	449	..	3.9	13.0
98.40	Paterson Zch 'A'	419	..	4.1	12.1
2,244.70	Reckitt Colm▼	597	+12	3.8	15.1
54.70	Relyon	258	+11	2.6	47.1
90.50	Silentnight	195	-3	5.1	12.2
19.50	Stoddard†	29½	+½	6.8	11.1
13.00	Tomkinsons	208	..	6.9	..
8.80	Victoria Carpet	130	-19	4.3	7.0
118.10	Walker Greenbk▲	102	+1	4.4	18.8
411.10	Waterford Wedgwd	58	+1	..	45.2
3.10	Wood (Arthur)	155	..	2.4	31.2

INSURANCE

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
542.00	Alex & Alex†	1237½	+25	6.4	..
3,740.40	Am Gen	1787½	..	4.2	..
60.10	Angerstein	83	..	1.7	73.4
21.20	Archer	58	+1	2.2	..
57.80	Bradstock	94	+2	7.9	..
756.50	Britannic	399	+4	4.1	..
82.80	CLM Insce	96	..	2.0	83.6
3,380.90	Com Union	513	-14	4.9	19.3
48.40	Dalen	87	..	0.8	..
112.50	Dom & Gen	1855	..	2.1	17.7
110.50	FAI	87	+1	1.4	..
85.60	FBD IE	162½	+½	4.2	7.6
57.10	Fenchurch Gp	160	..	6.5	..
29.10	Festbury Under	97	-½	1.7	82.6
2,332.90	Gen Accident†	515	-16	6.8	8.3
1,477.10	GRE†	169	-11½	5.8	18.9
60.00	HCS Lloyds	92	..	1.8	77.5
183.20	Heath C E†	248	+2	8.1	..
98.50	Hibernian IE	187	+4	5.2	7.0
32.40	Hiscox Select	108	..	1.7	..
118.20	Independent	267½	+2½	4.1	7.2
559.70	Irish Life	184	+6	6.4	17.2
191.00	JIB Group	126	+2	7.4	11.6
2,126.80	Legal & Gen	434	+4	5.9	17.3
3,584.00	Liberty Life†	1503¾	+31¾	3.1	5.7
277.20	Londre Ins Mkt	99	-½	2.5	34.5
125.10	Lloyd Thomp	161	..	6.1	10.8
2,387.60	Lloyds Abbey	332	+12	7.0	10.0
62.30	Lonbard Ins	175	-1	5.5	16.7
371.20	Londn & Man	307	+8	6.6	16.3
277.20	London Ins Mkt	99	-½	2.5	34.5
98.70	Lowndes Lmbrt	163	+1	5.9	10.1
3,781.90	Marsh McLn	5143½	+200	3.8	..
36.20	Matheson	95	-1	..	..
81.40	Nelson Hust	180	+5	3.9	18.0
51.60	New London Cap	86	-1	1.5	..
24.80	Oriel	102	..	8.1	..
14.80	Pendlone Trust	75	-½	3.3	..
14.50	Pointers Under	110	-1	..	..
6,042.00	Prudential	318	+5	5.3	13.7
10.80	PWS	35	..	10.7	5.6
391.20	Refuge	249	+8	5.6	12.3
1,798.80	Royal†	276	-5	4.1	5.7
695.50	Sedgwick	153	+2	4.9	17.3
58.40	Steel Burrill	122	+2	9.2	..
34.90	Stenhs Hldgs	69	-4	5.9	..
2,396.60	Sun Alliance	285	-12	6.4	8.2
39.80	Syndicate Cap	86	..	1.8	70.9
109.70	Trade Indemnity	60	..	1.9	13.4
997.20	Transatlantic	330	-6	4.5	29.9
379.70	Utd Friendly	453	+28	4.6	23.8
586.30	Willis Corroon†	140	+2	5.9	16.5
7.77	Windsor	23	..	2.8	..

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,950.60	3i†	334	+5½	2.8	..
40.50	Abtrust Emerg	81	-1	0.3	..
32.20	Abtrust High Inc	80½	-1½	8.8	..
94.20	Abtrust N Dawn	218	+1	0.5	..
870.90	Alliance	1728	+13	3.1	..
213.00	American Trust	258	+7	2.6	..
477.40	Anglo & O'seas	418	+6	2.1	..
42.80	Baillie Gifford SN	149	+2	..	..
285.80	Bankers	184½	+½	2.7	..
56.50	Baring Emg Eu	45½	-½	0.3	..
183.60	Baring Tribune	319	+6	2.6	..
11.50	Berry Starq	222	..	1.2	..
345.60	Br Assets†	90	+1	6.0	..
129.40	Br Empire Sect	98½	+½	1.3	..
4.26	Br Empire Wts	32	..	..	..
639.60	Br Invt	305	+5	3.0	..
62.60	Brazilian	100½	-5½	0.3	..
145.30	Brunner	227	+1	2.9	..
66.60	BZW Convt	130	-½	7.5	..
75.70	Candover	338	+5	4.1	..
103.00	Cadzdl Euro Gwth	51½	+½	..	..
33.70	China & Eastern	165	..	2.7	..
40.70	Cont Assst	186	..	2.0	..
5.84	Danae Inv Inc	80	..	13.0	..
46.80	Derby Cap	305	+2	..	..
18.99	Derby Inc	168	..	12.3	..
7.83	Drayton Bluet	62	-8	16.9	..
45.10	Drytn Eng Indt	92	-1	1.1	..
163.60	Drytn Far East	141½	+1	0.6	..
205.40	Dunedin Inc G	642	+10	6.1	..
35.80	Dunedin Japan	69½	+1	..	..
60.70	Dunedin Smlrt	302	+6	3.7	..
2.82	Dunedin Wts	36½	..	..	..
246.90	Dunedin Wrdwt	737	+2	1.6	..
265.30	Edin Dragon	100½	..	..	..
36.60	Edinburgh Inca	44½	-6	0.1	..
884.30	Edinburgh	301	+4	3.7	..
16.00	EFM Japan	180	+1	..	..
553.90	Electra Inv	330	..	2.9	..
171.80	Electric Gen	190	..	2.2	..
8.16	Eng & Caledon	182	..	2.7	..
1.43	English Scot	109	+1	..	..
68.80	European Asset	276	..	..	..
80.20	Fidelity Euro Val	154	+2	2.1	..
124.50	Fidelity Jap Val	83	+1	0.2	..
37.40	Finsbury 'A'	156	+1	2.4	..
25.50	First Spanish	78	..	0.4	..
189.90	Fleming Amer	283	+2	0.5	..
45.30	Fleming Chinese	75½	+¾	0.8	..
4.39	Fleming Ch Wts	35	+2	..	..
112.30	Fleming Claver	303	+4	3.4	..
196.60	Fleming Cont	301	..	0.9	..
153.30	Fleming Em Mkt	158½	-3	..	..
82.40	Fleming Ent	206	+2	2.9	..
505.00	Fleming F East	334	+2	0.6	..
44.90	Fleming Fledg	356	+4	1.1	..
31.10	Fleming Hi Inct	96	..	5.8	..
73.90	Fleming Indiant	88	-3	0.6	..
7.56	Fleming In Wts	45	..	..	..
26.00	Fleming Int	35	..	12.7	..
444.40	Fleming Japan	257	+7	..	..
397.40	Fleming Merct	275	..	3.0	..
387.80	Fleming Oseas	292	+3	1.8	..
1,408.30	Foreign & Col	134	+1½	1.7	..
42.70	For & Col Inc Gwth	99½	+½	1.6	..
122.70	Fgn Emg Mkts	122½	-8	..	..
66.30	Fgn Enterprise	78½	+1	1.1	..
131.70	Fgn Eurotst	218	..	0.7	..
47.20	Fgn German	120	+3	0.5	..
382.60	Fgn Pacific	315	+3	1.0	..
57.80	Fgn PEP	122	..	3.6	..
168.00	Fgn Smaller	160½	+1	1.6	..
48.20	Fgn US Smr	96	+3	..	..
3.85	Fulcrum Cap	24	..	..	..
5.17	Fulcrum Inct	46	..	23.5	..
12.10	Fulcrum Zero	140½	+1½	..	..
95.00	Gartmore Brit	190	..	4.8	..
22.00	Gartmore Eurot	129	+2	0.9	..
29.20	Gartmore Smrt	86	..	14.4	..
33.70	G'more Smlr Cos	206	+1	3.5	..
23.10	Geared Inc Inv	100	+1	10.4	..
27.00	Genl Cons Cap	149	..	..	..
38.00	Genl Inct	105	..	10.4	..
35.30	German Inv	90½	+1	0.1	..
87.60	Gov Asian Sm Co's	234	-3	0.1	..
42.90	Gov Emg Mkts	120	..	0.3	..
35.90	Govett Am Smlr	144	+4	..	..
18.30	Gov Glob Smlr	84	..	..	..
39.70	Govett High Inct	83	+1	7.0	..
684.70	Govett Oriental	381	+2	0.4	..
233.70	Govett Strategict	238	+1	3.5	..
48.20	Greenfriar	402	-2	2.1	..
0.25	Gresham House	5	..	..	..
151.00	GT Japan	242	+6	0.6	..
79.10	H Govett Smlr Co	119½	..	1.1	..
30.50	Hend High	117	..	6.1	..
46.30	Hend Stratt	277	+1	0.2	..
59.10	Herald	91	+1	..	..
106.10	HTR Jap Smaller	106	+3	0.5	..
0.45	I&S Ent	15	..	..	..
28.70	I&S UK Smllrt	99	..	3.5	..
222.70	Inv Cap	90	+5½	7.2	..
	Ind Biotech	87	..	..	..
	Ind Wts	32	..	..	..
34.20	INVESCO Korea	148½	-1½	..	..
27.60	J Fry 2nd Ut	95	+1	8.4	..
10.00	J Fry Euro U	94	..	6.4	..
139.80	JF Fledg Jap	222	+2	..	..
25.70	Jupiter Intl Grn	102	..	4.2	..
162.80	Kleinwt Chrt	201	+1	3.2	..
24.10	Klnwt E Mkt	121	-6	..	..
34.50	Klnwt End	115	+4	..	..
372.50	Klnwt Euro Prvt	74½	+½	1.3	..
24.00	Klnwt Euro Wts	24	..	..	..
24.30	Klnwt H Inct	81	+1	11.8	..
186.10	Klnwt O'seas	232	+3	1.8	..
16.80	Klnwt Smlr	127	+1	3.1	..
113.50	Latin American	126	-2½	..	..
168.40	Law Debenture	733	..	3.3	..
21.80	Lazard H Inct	96	+2	8.3	..
19.90	Lloyds Sm Cap	81	..	..	..
6.99	Lloyds Sm Div	28½	..	15.6	..
27.00	Lloyds Sm Pkg	110	..	4.0	..
32.50	Lon St Lawrence	160	+2	4.9	..
37.40	Lon Smaller Co's	82	..	4.8	..
65.30	Lowland	284	..	4.1	..
219.80	Lyderburg	1387½	..	1.7	..
54.80	M&G 2nd Dual Cap	549	+2	..	..
13.50	M&G 2nd Dual Inc	135	..	24.8	..
111.30	M&G Dual Cap	2820	+2	..	..
16.70	M&G Dual Inc	280	..	30.3	..
86.00	M&G Inc Gowdt	65½	+½	9.4	..
71.50	M&G Inc Inv Tst Cap	29	+½	..	..
30.00	M&G Inc Inv Tst Inct	38½	..	16.8	..
176.40	M&G Inc Packaget	121	+2	5.1	..
134.90	M&G Inc Zero Div	54½	+½	..	..
41.10	M&G Rec Cap	30½	..	..	..
611.90	M&G Rec Geared	61½	..	7.9	..
40.40	M&G Rec Inc	30	-½	16.1	..
147.00	M&G Rec Packge	131	+1	3.7	..
99.70	M&G Rec Zero Div	74	..	..	..
24.40	M Currie Euro	106	+2½	0.3	..
56.60	M Currie Pac	138	+2	0.3	..
101.80	Majedie†	194	+2	3.4	..
11.30	Marwin	55	..	..	..
408.80	Merc Wld Min	96	+7	..	..
271.10	Merchants	285	+1	5.3	..
471.50	Mercury Euro Pvt	82	-½	0.9	..
32.80	Mercury Wts	28½	+1	..	..
25.50	Mercury Wld Wts	30	+1	..	..
398.90	Monks Inv Tst	514	+3	1.7	..
52.40	Morg Gren Inct	132	+2	4.5	..
2.08	Morg Wts	43	+3	..	..
54.50	Morg Latn Amer	85	-14	..	..
6.29	Morg Wts	49	-8	..	..
30.50	Murray Ent▼	115	..	2.3	..
17.20	Murray Euro	57½	..	0.8	..
278.80	Murray Inmet	324	+4	4.5	..
400.30	Murray Intl	333	..	4.7	..
10.50	Murray S/C DP	164	+2	..	..
7.22	Murray S/C Cap	129	..	..	..
8.24	Murray S/C Inc	78	..	17.6	..
1.58	Murray S/C Uts	3060	..	4.3	..
259.70	Murray Smalrt	463	+1	1.2	..
76.10	Murray Vent	308	+2	4.7	..
1.54	Murray Ent Wts	32	..	..	..
1.02	Murray Eu Wts	16½	..	..	..
5.70	Newmarket	16	..	..	..
22.70	Nestbrg Inc	58	+1½	9.3	..
16.90	Nestbrg Cap	68	-1	..	..
133.00	O'seas Inv Tst	349	+6	1.2	..
3.57	O'seas Wts	199	+1	..	..
97.30	Pacific Assets	417	+1	0.3	..
12.40	Pacific Wts	383	+1	..	..
34.30	Perpetual Jap	94	+1	..	..
13.30	Personal Assets	8700	..	2.8	..
46.30	Pilot Inv	125	..	1.6	..
8.76	Piper Euro Sm	87	-1	..	..
63.70	Prolific Inc	91	+1½	..	..
314.40	RIT Cap Ptnr	174	+1	1.1	..
9.94	River Merc Am Cap	26½	-½	..	..
7.58	River Merc Am Inct	101	..	9.7	..
0.82	River Merc Am Wts	11	..	..	..
48.70	River Merc Cap	121	+4	..	..
32.00	River Merc Ex Inc	86	+1	11.3	..
0.90	River Merc Ex IncW	15	+1	..	..
11.60	River Merc Gld Inct	83	..	11.3	..
3.10	River Merc Gld Pd	26	..	..	..
22.10	River Merc Tst Inct	110	..	10.5	..
1.39	River Merc Wt	23	..	..	..
31.80	River Merc Sm Co	136	..	4.1	..
1.56	River Merc Sm Wt	32	..	..	..
	Robeco	409	..	3.1	..
	Rolinco	417	..	1.9	..
110.00	Schrod Jap Gwth	88	+3	..	..
9.50	Schrod Jap Gwth Wt	38	..	..	..
58.70	Schrod Korea Fd	889	+9½	0.1	..
5.16	Sch Korea Fd Wt	469½	+4½	..	..
40.90	Sch Spl Zero Div	108½	..	..	..
8.35	Sch Split Fd Cap	29½	..	..	..
62.80	Sch Split Fd Inct	111	..	8.4	..
21.40	Scotnd UK Gwthr	91½	+2	2.0	..
	Scotnd UK Gwth Wt	33	+1	..	..
537.40	Scott	210½	+4	3.1	..
345.50	Scot American†	154½	+1½	3.9	..
54.60	Scot Asian	260	+2	..	..
4.79	Scot Wts	685	..	..	..
526.90	Scot Eastern	83	+1½	2.4	..
793.50	Scot Mtge	220	+2	2.4	..
145.30	Scot Natl Tst†	91	..	10.3	..
53.80	Scot Value†	107	+1	2.3	..
289.90	Second Alliance	1510	+11	3.5	..
264.20	Secs Tst of Scot	82½	+1	4.9	..
41.30	Selective Asset	143	..	1.3	..
17.10	SHIRESCOT†	131	..	5.2	..
43.70	Sphere Inv	36	+1½	13.4	..
104.20	St Andrew Inv	303	..	3.3	..
198.30	Temple Bar	346	+9	4.9	..
106.30	Thmtn Asian E	106	+2	0.6	..
16.90	Throg Dual Cp	483	..	..	..
223.30	Throgmorton	73½	+1½	3.9	..
479.40	Tmpltn Emrg Mkt	119½	-2½	0.7	..
300.30	TR City Of Lon	147	+3	4.5	..
68.60	TR Far East†	146	+3	5.0	..
148.10	TR Pacific	110½	+1½	0.2	..
149.40	TR Property▼	31½	..	3.5	..
327.00	TR Smlr Cos	183½	+2	2.6	..
37.40	TR Tech Inv	103	..	2.1	..
20.80	Turkey Trust	211	-1	1.2	..
84.90	USDC Invest	232	..	2.4	..
49.30	Value Inc Tst	114½	-½	4.6	..
13.00	Wigmore†	64	..	1.0	..
867.00	Witan	231	+4½	3.1	..
24.40	Yeoman Inct	99	-1	17.3	..

LEISURE & HOTELS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
180.70	1st Choice	113	-2	3.9	..
3.60	Abbey Stk H	30	..	..	..
490.00	Airtours	431	-6	3.6	10.4
12.60	Ald Leis	18	..	..	..
215.60	Alpha Airpts	143	..	3.5	..
27.90	Arcadian	40	..	..	..
21.80	Baldwin	115	..	3.8	19.8
22.40	Barr & W 'A'	225	-13	5.6	9.4
100.50	Bluebird Toys	229	+14	3.3	6.8
65.10	Boosey Hwks	332	..	1.9	19.6
10.50	Brent Walker	3	-¼	..	..
11.10	Bristol Scotts	183	..	2.0	..
2.41	Buckingham Int	2	..	..	..
67.20	Chrysalis	250	+2	1.6	37.0
155.70	City Centre Rest	81	+2	2.7	16.4
790.20	Compass Gp	332	+11	2.6	..
62.90	Eurocamp	239	..	5.2	8.9
941.00	Euro Disney	123	+9	..	..
19.90	Euro Leisure	24½	+½	..	..
15.40	Fairline Boats	440	..	4.5	..
441.30	First Leisure	270	+3	3.1	17.9
2,303.40	Forte	244	+10	3.8	28.9
34.60	Friendly Hotelst	174	..	4.1	29.1
7.24	GR Hldgs	55	..	2.5	..
2,939.10	Granada	505	+7	2.5	16.2
18.00	Hi-Tec Sports	37	..	8.4	5.4
11.10	Hornby	134	-1	8.4	11.7
53.50	Jarvis Hotel	157½	+½	4.4	14.1
34.30	Kunick	14½	..	4.5	..
199.70	London Clubst	282	+6	5.3	14.4
1,988.70	Ladbroke	171	+15½	2.5	30.2
3.67	Magnolia	64	-1	0.2	..
78.70	Man Utd†	129	..	4.1	..
406.10	Mandarin Orntl	73	-1½	4.4	18.8
28.50	My Kinda Town	11½	+½	..	..
21.40	Northern	66	+1	5.7	10.9
57.30	Pelican Gp	81	..	1.9	18.9
65.40	PizzaExpress	122	+5	2.0	18.8
9.34	Prism Leisure	111	..	4.7	7.8
8.17	Quadrant Grp	25	+1	..	..
21.80	Ramsdens (H)	247	-1	2.3	37.2
3,365.70	Rank Org	405	..	3.6	26.0
17.08	Ryan Hotels IE	28	..	5.0	14.8
261.10	Savoy Hotel 'A'	913	+3	0.5	..
406.00	Stakis	85	+1	1.8	30.6
180.40	Stanley Leisure	336	+1	2.0	18.9
1,050.40	Tanjong	280	..	0.7	15.7
4,355.40	Thorn EMI†	1020	+15½	4.3	19.5
24.50	Tottenham Hot	153	-3	0.8	41.1
62.60	VCI	161	..	1.6	14.4
101.20	Vardon	137	+6	1.1	24.3
12.90	Wembley	5	..	..	..
8.88	Zetters Gp	135	..	7.9	..

MEDIA

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
107.50	Abbott Mead	338	+1	2.2	30.6
53.40	Adscene	300	+6	2.7	21.5
240.30	Aegis Gp	29½	+1½	..	..
7.91	Allied Radio	5½	..	..	..
1.09	BBB Design	13	..	..	6.7
28.70	Barbour Index	158	-4	8.7	13.6
6.66	Bildale	8½	+½	..	..
4.97	Black (A&C)	320	..	5.3	11.6
228.10	Blenheim Gp	245	+1	5.3	8.2
20.00	Border TV	186	+15	2.8	18.2
69.00	Bostock†	368	-1	4.2	37.4
4,416.30	B Sky B	257½	+½	..	40.5
59.60	CIA Gp	131	-1	1.7	21.2
247.90	Capital Radiot	340	+7	2.7	..
2,051.60	Carlton Comm	832	+33	2.9	17.0
6.99	City of Lon†	89	..	6.2	13.6
68.00	Daily Mail	1359½	+9½	1.5	32.5
1,008.00	Daily Mail 'A'	1009½	+31½	2.1	24.4
202.50	Dorling Kind	313	..	1.3	30.5
771.80	EMAP†	391	+14	2.9	21.6
4,271.60	Elsevier	650	+13½	3.0	21.0
356.70	Euromoney Pbs	1635	+15	3.2	..
4.30	Feon	11½	..	..	..
386.10	Fiedech	414	-16	..	..
61.40	Gwtt Gp	883	-2	1.9	..
42.80	Gold Greenless	162	-1	3.1	19.3
10.50	Goodhead	35	..	0.2	..
45.80	Grampian†	325	-1	3.1	17.4
118.40	HTV Group	135	-1	1.6	30.2
3.52	Harrington K	35	+1	3.6	..
45.30	Haynes Pub	290	..	3.9	17.2
115.20	Hodder H'ton	330	-5	3.0	53.1
18.30	Home Counts	182	..	3.9	39.7
327.90	Independent	273	..	2.8	14.1
90.00	Intl Bus Comm	231	+7	1.9	11.2
6.85	Interurope	133	+2	7.3	..
198.10	Johnston Press	147	..	1.6	28.6
11.10	Lopex	21	..	1.9	23.7
56.90	MMD	70	-1	..	..
53.00	Metal Bulletin	535	+25	2.6	27.8
155.80	Midland Ind	113	+1	3.1	15.5
544.80	Mirror Gp	131	-½	1.0	8.9
118.60	More O'Ferrall	365	+3	4.5	21.1
4,653.50	News Corp	250	-1	0.6	15.1
1,415.80	News Intl	205	-5	0.9	10.9
8.11	Osprey Comms	31	-7	0.4	..
3,107.90	Pearson	562	-3	3.0	19.3
75.60	Phonelink	213	..	..	..
72.40	Portsmth Sund	603	..	2.3	12.4
46.00	Quarto	250	..	3.0	13.6
4,456.70	Reed Intl	793	+29	3.1	24.0
7,906.30	Reuters	474	+11	1.8	23.7
319.10	Saatchi	145	-9	..	28.2
52.80	Scot Radio	565	-5	3.0	..
203.40	Scot TV	422	..	3.7	28.3
32.90	SelecTV	23	..	..	..
55.40	Stanfield	41	-2	1.3	6.2
36.30	Southnews†	237	..	1.8	23.8
45.70	Sterling Pub	53	-6	4.7	9.2
7.89	Sucas & Vine	124	..	4.0	10.8
76.80	Taylor Nelson†	35	..	2.2	21.1
512.40	Telegraph	379	+23	4.3	13.4
4,371.20	Thomson Corp	755	+40	5.0	37.7
255.20	Trinity Intl	372	+4	3.4	17.1
70.80	Ulster TV	674	-1	3.0	20.7
1,156.00	Utd Newspaprs	473	-8	6.0	11.4
11.10	VTR†	106	-2	4.7	11.4
8.59	WMGO	13	-5½	10.0	6.1
763.70	WPP	106	-5	1.2	15.2
192.50	Yorkshire TV	379	+6	..	..

MINING

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
6.21	Alex Corp	95	..	4.1	..
930.50	Ang Am Coal†	3693½	..	2.6	19.2
8,584.50	Ang Am	3584½	+169½	2.0	33.0
1,600.10	Ang Am Gold	6628½	+309½	4.2	17.1
20.60	Anglo Pac Res	26½	-½	..	..
1,160.80	Ashanti	1384½	+46½	..	..
310.40	Ashton	111	-2	5.0	..
16,436.20	Broken Hill	992	+47	2.2	37.8
36.80	Balywich	245	+2	..	..
368.40	Beatrix	382	+4	4.8	21.7
3.55	Bloch	34	..	2.5	29.4
26.60	Blyvoors	111½	+4½	..	..
156.40	Bougainville	39	-2	..	..
2.33	Bracken	18	+½	5.0	..
64.80	Buffels	590	+6	9.4	..
8.82	Buris	3½	+½	..	..
5,345.30	CRA	898	+14	2.5	26.5
	Central Pacific	46	+2	..	..
23.80	Chill Res	41	..	..	..
44.50	Coal Inv	76	..	..	..
12.40	Cons Murchison	199	+3	3.2	..
5,631.80	De Beers	1481¼	+31¼	3.6	15.3
108.10	Deelkraal	109½	+4½	3.3	9.4
26.60	Doornfontein	86½	+14½	..	..
1,945.30	Driefontein	953½	+61½	4.9	12.6
14.70	Durban	634¼	+10½	..	..
77.10	E Rand Gold	168	+21½	12.4	5.4
101.90	E Rand Prop	76¼	+¼	..	..
60.40	Eastern Trans	70	..	3.4	16.5
380.10	Elandsrand	392	+4	4.2	8.9
1,096.00	Eng China Cl	359	+19	5.7	17.3
1,139.40	FS Cons	957½	+70	6.2	11.6
13.30	FS Dev	60	..	2.1	..
1,798.20	GFSA	1862½	..	2.0	27.2
487.00	GM Kalgoorli	51	+6	3.0	17.8
3,113.80	Gencor	226½	+6½	1.2	27.7
12.10	Gold Fields Prop▼	118	..	8.0	..
13.90	Greenwich R 'A'	15½	-½	..	..
18.70	Grootvlei	163½	+10	5.9	8.5
90.10	Gwalia Cons	87½	+½	1.1	10.0
154.30	Harmony	574	+16½	..	..
325.80	Hartbst	281	+10½	9.3	9.0
976.10	Impala Ptnl	1543½	+31½	1.6	46.7
152.90	Kidston	122	-13	9.8	11.0
185.60	Kinross	1087½	+31½	4.5	14.8
1,282.50	Kloof	925¼	+41½	4.0	8.3
17.80	Leslie	110	+7½	9.9	6.3
48.70	Loraine	297½	+22½	..	..
18.10	Metcalhaw	21	+1	..	..
0.60	Mhangura	3	..	..	..
1,559.60	MIM	111	+7	2.3	..
3,323.40	Minorco	1475	..	2.5	..
92.90	Menarch	172	+10	..	..
56.30	NSM	92	-1	..	8.6
1,144.80	Nth Brkn Hill	171	+11	3.2	23.8
	Oryx Gold	50	..	..	..
188.80	Pancontinental	85	+11	..	..
53.40	Petaling Tin	265	+5	0.6	..
946.50	Placer Pac	152	-20	..	..
157.40	RJB	#348	..	4.4	16.8
6,856.10	RTZ	830	+4	3.1	23.7
4.98	Rackwood	31	-1	..	..
387.70	Rand Mines	650	..	1.8	56.9
447.10	Randfontein	731¼	+83½	8.8	9.2
477.20	Renison	240	+12	..	..
2,121.70	Rustnbg	1693½	+53½	1.8	..
	St Barbara	68	-7	..	..
59.50	St Helena	618½	+54½	7.2	..
163.80	Sons Gwalia	230	+2	5.5	14.1
58.40	Sthern Pacific	21	+4	..	..
460.10	Southvaal	1768½	+18½	5.0	20.1
2.52	Starola	3½	..	..	..
8.86	Stilfontein	75½	+½	28.8	2.5
49.20	Unisel	175½	+7½	3.4	13.2
1,084.40	Vaal Reefs	5671¼	+269¼	4.6	9.1
12.30	Wankie Col Z	12	..	10.3	2.9
110.90	Watts Blake	533	..	3.9	20.1
452.80	Western Areas	1123½	+135½	4.7	14.2
725.60	Western Deep	2618½	+90½	4.0	8.9
4,120.40	Western Mng	373	+25	1.1	54.6
108.30	Winkels	887½	+56½	5.4	12.3
65.60	Zambia Copper	53	+3	..	..
62.50	Zandpan	48	..	9.4	10.6

OIL & GAS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
113.10	Amo Energy	43½	+½	..	35.2
23.00	Arcon Intl	40	..	..	..
	Aus Oil & Gas	57½	+1½	..	..
18.40	Aviva Pet	52	..	..	..
100.80	Br Borneo	224	..	4.0	10.5
13,469.50	British Gas	310½	+3	5.8	..
23,658.60	Br Petroleum†	438	+8½	2.8	23.6
18.80	Bula Resources	2½	..	..	..
1,598.00	Burmah Castrl†	799	+8	4.3	15.9
33.10	Cairn Energy	82	..	..	45.2
448.20	Calor Gp†	266	-2	5.9	12.8
159.20	Clyde Pet	39	..	1.1	..
19.30	Cepax Res	11½	+½	..	..
43.30	Dragon Oil	2½	..	..	..
7.47	Edin Oil & Gs	21½	..	..	23.2
1,928.60	Enterprise	392	+8	5.1	..
65.60	Fairhaven Intl	27	+2	4.5	11.0
68.90	Flogas†	280	..	5.8	11.6
55.50	Fortune	5½	..	..	33.5
84.50	Goal Pet	63	..	2.9	20.9
46.40	Gt Western Res	41	..	..	..
157.10	Hardy O & G	139	+1½	0.9	17.8
79.20	Kell Energy	52	+2½	3.2	20.9
1,365.30	Lasmo	143½	+2	0.9	..
3.69	Lasmo Units	32	..	18.8	..
432.50	Monument	65	-½	..	69.5
9.21	New London	7½	..	..	..
5,754.00	Norsk Hydro	2512½	+93½	1.3	..
6.59	Oceanics	4½	..	..	..
137.70	Oil Search	45	..	..	..
	Pennz	33½	-2	..	..
81.20	Pict Pet	157	+18	..	..
138.10	Premier	25¼	+3½	..	13.7
10.90	Presidio	43	..	15.5	..
50.70	Pittencrief Rs	88	+3	..	..
39.90	Ramco Egy	209	-1	0.3	..
377.10	Ranger	383	-2	5.4	..
37,076.80	Royal Dtch Fl	6915½	+178½	4.6	18.0
8,005.60	Schlumberger	3287½	+18½	2.4	..
5.63	Scott Pickford	48	..	2.3	9.2
44.70	Seafield	87	+2	..	..
23,105.50	Shell	697	+6	4.5	21.1
3.40	Sprlan Eng Sr	#116	..	..	..
6,631.30	Total	3880½	+103½	4.8	..
11.20	Viking Res	9½	..	..	..
1,593.30	Woodside	239	+4	1.7	..
92.60	XCL	49	+1	..	..

OTHER FINANCIAL

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
14.50	BMD	76	..	6.9	8.2
33.90	Baltic Plc	124	..	2.0	7.8
5.08	Berry Birch Nbl	78	-2	8.2	11.8
90.90	Britannic Inv	153	+1	..	..
23.50	Brewin Dolphin	114	+1	6.4	8.4
517.70	Caledonia†	623	..	3.3	17.0
53.10	Camellia	2125	-75	1.9	5.7
33.60	Carlisle	21½	+1½	1.5	..
149.30	Cater Allen†	458	+10	7.7	9.4
202.20	Cattles	149	+2	4.4	16.7
8.19	Chrisbe	35	..	..	77.3
11.80	Chymmet	71	-1½	4.7	..
6.55	ERG	14	..	0.9	9.1
23.80	EFT Group	62	+3	3.5	13.1
138.30	EFM	729	+4	4.1	21.9
199.60	Equi	162	+1	6.7	4.4
368.80	Gartmore	183	+6	2.7	21.1
237.70	Gerrard Nat	489	..	6.1	14.1
250.10	Govett	356	+10	5.3	5.8
229.00	Henderson Adr	1065	+50	5.3	14.8
436.30	Invesco	166	-1	2.8	27.2
11.90	Investment Co†	43	..	5.1	13.7
65.40	Ivory Sime	224	-7	4.2	17.3
2,141.00	Jardine Strat	226½	-1½	3.7	8.9
20.39	Johnson Fry	135	+4	1.4	4.3
17.90	King Shaxson	103	..	10.9	10.2
163.30	Lon Forfaiting	161	+1	7.2	10.1
72.10	Lon Scot Bk	113	+5	3.8	18.1
739.10	M & G	988	+46	3.9	16.8
732.30	MAI	224	..	4.4	12.2
	MAI 5.9% Cv Pf	88½	+½	..	..
1,288.40	MAM	703	-15	4.1	16.5
16.30	Nat Home Loan	15½	..	..	..
307.60	Perpetual†	1165	+70	3.8	12.6
721.70	Provident	538	+11	4.1	17.1
47.80	Rathbone Bs	245	..	4.9	12.1
65.70	Rutland Ts	26½	..	4.2	13.4
35.50	S & U	301	+3	4.5	9.8
27.60	Sheelcliffe	164	-3	6.9	6.1
304.10	SJP Capitalt	111	+2	3.4	7.9
275.60	Smith New Crt	441	+27	2.8	3.7
3,897.80	Swire Pacific 'A'	401½	+13½	2.4	..
12.10	Tourt	73	+1	7.1	6.8
13.90	Trio Hldgs	25	+1	0.5	11.3
24.50	Union	92	..	6.1	8.5
3.76	Western Selecn	25	..	1.2	..

PHARMACEUTICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
361.30	Brit Biotech	541	-6	..	..
33.90	Cantab Pharms	345	..	..	..
167.10	Celltech	236	..	..	..
65.90	Chiroscience	97	+4	..	..
42.00	Cortecs	38	..	..	..
760.20	Fisons†	110	-4	3.1	..
20,569.30	Glaxo	673	+47	5.0	16.2
69.50	Grampian Hdg	100	+1	6.9	18.5
472.00	Medeva	169	-2	2.1	13.6
4.34	Premier Health	1½	..	..	..
35.40	Quality Care	253	..	2.2	14.7
172.80	Scotia	274	..	..	..
10.40	Shield Diag	56	+1	..	..
6,416.80	SmithKlineB†	486	+12	3.3	18.1
5,672.30	SmithKline Ut	433	+14	3.6	16.9
6,133.50	Wellcome	705	+30	3.1	16.0
8,353.20	Zeneca	883	+10	3.9	17.7

PRINTING & PAPER

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
22.70	AG Holdings†	126	+2	5.5	11.9
87.50	API	381	+23	3.0	..
1,955.00	Arjo Wiggins	239	..	3.4	36.0
23.00	Aspen Comms	185	..	3.8	18.8
118.00	Bemrose	371	+3	4.2	13.3
74.60	Blagden	103	..	1.8	48.2
2,130.00	Bowater	426	+6	3.8	16.0
641.90	Bowater Inct	1753½	+90½	..	..
71.50	Bromore Ind	260	+17	2.0	15.9
150.70	Br Polythene	499	+2	3.1	17.5
4.82	Br Thornton	30	-10	19.4	2.5
161.60	Boston Gp	117	-3	2.7	17.2
731.70	Bunzl	172	+4	3.0	20.2
39.90	Capital Inds	144	..	3.9	11.3
1,798.30	Carnaud Mb	2231½	+115½	2.1	17.4
23.30	Cropper (James)†	282	..	1.6	14.8
1,802.60	De La Rue†	934	-21	2.8	17.0
6.78	Delyn Group	80	..	2.6	14.5
24.10	Dolphin Pack	103	..	5.5	13.2
29.70	Fairey Group	93	..	4.6	17.4
123.00	Ferguson Ind	303	..	5.3	12.2
15.20	Ferry Pick	121	..	5.9	..
1.16	Hunterprint	2	..	..	..
82.50	Inveresk	157	+3	4.0	8.4
130.80	Jarvis Porter▼	280	..	2.4	18.3
391.60	Low & Bonar	398	+1	3.2	15.9
70.30	MY Holdings▼	52	-3	3.8	12.4
208.40	Macfarlane	257	..	2.0	20.7
77.50	Pysco	163	..	5.4	23.0
682.00	Portals†	1020	+100	2.0	27.7
321.10	St Ives Gp	324	+8½	2.5	17.6
1,569.10	Sappi	1125	+13½	0.5	..
7.06	Sarif	9½	..	..	..
139.30	Shiftert	203	+10	6.8	..
789.90	Smith David†	507	+9½	3.0	..
2,000.50	Smurfit (Jeff)▼	373	+20	1.5	53.2
1.94	Sonict	97	..	3.5	10.4
3.83	Unit Group	34	..	..	..
182.70	Wace	233	+11	2.1	14.9
218.40	Waddington (J)†	212	-5	5.1	10.4
277.90	Watmough	413	..	2.1	26.1
30.70	Wyndeham	139	..	2.6	17.7

PROPERTY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
64.00	Allied Lont	92	..	5.3	11.8
143.20	Argent	261	+5	..	..
9.95	Arlesian Ests	74	-4	..	..
88.80	Asda Prop	113	+2	2.5	20.1
216.20	Bilton	246	+11	4.9	17.9
103.70	Birkeyt	213	+3	4.0	15.7
2.79	Bolton Gp	15	..	..	45.8
40.80	Bourne End†	72	+1½	1.3	..
273.20	Bradford†	184	+8	4.8	15.5
8.61	Brightstone	129	+5	3.8	27.9
1,374.70	Br Land	383	-36	2.5	36.1
414.70	Brixton	178	+7	5.7	15.8
267.60	Burford	80	+3	2.2	28.2
98.00	CLS Hldgs	99	+1	6.2	..
62.50	Cap & Regnl	137	..	1.5	31.0
746.20	Cap Shop Ctrs	205	+8	4.0	49.3
8.85	Cardiff Prop	228	..	1.4	51.0
69.80	Carlton Ind	24½	..	..	..
251.00	Chelsfield	160	+7	1.9	54.3
84.70	Chesterfield†	432	+10	3.6	19.4
45.00	Chesterton Int	88	-1	4.7	12.4
8.00	City Site Ests	52	+1	..	10.4
9.75	Clarke Nicholls	6	-1	2.1	12.5
6.45	Compco	77½	..	6.3	..
34.70	Conrad Ritblat GS	29	+1	2.2	25.4
195.60	Daejan	1200	-5	3.0	14.0
3.15	Dares Estates	9	-1½	..	..
2.60	De Morgan	4½	..	..	..
39.80	Debenham Twso	95	-1	4.6	15.4
56.40	Dencora	183	..	2.5	45.8
74.60	Derwent Hldgs	240	..	2.4	21.4
55.20	Development Sec	19	+1½	0.7	..
23.10	Dwyer	45	-1	2.1	..
9.17	Eldco	31	..	..	..
21.00	Estates Agency†	350	..	4.6	..
5.03	Estates Gen	23½	..	..	..
139.20	Evans Of Leeds†	105	+7	3.1	17.5
26.70	Ex-Lands	24	+1	2.2	..
28.40	Fiscal Prop	65	..	1.2	..
24.40	Five Oaks	25	..	2.5	10.5
2.78	Fletcher King	32	-1	6.0	15.6
13.50	Folkes Group	44	..	4.3	..
10.40	Folkes Group nv	41	..	4.8	23.3
213.50	Frogmore	422	+2	5.0	15.2
58.30	Grainger	243	+7	3.1	..
595.40	Gt Portland†	184	+12	5.6	31.5
155.00	Greycoat	133	..	0.6	..
128.80	Hambro Cntyw	38½	-½	0.8	39.1
990.90	Hammerson	350	+41	3.6	35.1
51.80	Helical Bar	318	+1	2.4	11.4
47.50	Hemingway	29	..	1.7	49.8
3.20	Hemnig Baker	20	..	6.2	..
2.24	High-Point†	45	..	1.4	..
3,441.80	HK Land	157½	+½	5.1	..
15.40	Jermyn	154	..	..	77.1
3,080.40	Land Secs†	604	+18	5.0	17.3
3.64	Lon & Metro	8	..	..	0.3
291.90	Lon Merch Sec	95	+3	5.8	13.9
1,607.70	MEPC†	395	+18	6.3	21.5
3.91	McInerney A	6½	..	..	..
40.00	McKay Secs	167	..	3.9	15.5
11.10	Marale Mtr	65	+10	3.8	10.4
20.20	Mentfield Est	30	..	4.2	..
51.60	Mountview	1125	..	2.5	8.7
144.40	Muckow (A&J)†	148	..	5.3	19.7
9.83	ORB	4½	..	..	1.0
15.70	Olives Prop	32	+2	..	11.9
165.60	PSIT	136	+½	4.3	19.2
189.40	Peel	237	+18	2.4	45.8
167.50	Pillar Prop	148	+7	3.1	..
3.20	Power Corp	2½	..	..	..
14.80	Premier Land	6½	+½	..	..
10.50	RPS Group	70	..	4.8	12.8
52.90	Raglan	32	+1	..	7.8
32.30	Regalian	27½	+1	..	6.8
20.00	Rowlinson Secst	160	..	1.5	10.2
17.70	Rugby Est	98	..	2.9	..
56.80	St Modwen Prp	48½	+½	3.1	12.1
60.60	Saville Grdn (J)	60	..	5.6	17.5
20.80	Savills	55	+1	5.1	8.9
93.90	Scot Mett	72	+5	3.5	8.4
41.80	Shaftesbury†	86	-1	1.5	..
928.90	Slough Estates	238	+24	4.3	50.9
59.20	Southend Prop	55	+3	5.8	..
22.60	Specty Shops	103	+3	2.9	..
13.30	Stanhope Pps	#8	-6	..	..
50.30	TBI	59	+1	..	1.8
75.50	Tops Ests	183	-1	1.7	41.3
127.50	Town Centret	99	..	3.8	18.3
56.40	Trafford Park	83	+1	4.7	..
19.10	Trencherwood	23	+5	..	..
1.69	UK Land	36	-2	..	..
104.00	Warner	214	+1	6.5	20.6
86.40	Warnford	225	..	4.4	18.4
2.01	Waterglade	#2	..	..	..
140.90	Wates	71	+3	..	..
2.38	Whitney Mck	36	..	..	..
5.33	Wood John D	65	+1	3.8	..
2.12	YRM	16	..	..	..

RETAILERS, FOOD

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,913.30	ASDA Group	68	+2	3.5	16.0
2,955.40	Argyll†	282	+10	5.6	11.2
233.00	Beale Boost	456	..	2.0	16.4
40.70	Budgen	25	..	5.0	15.9
3.57	Carlorg	13½	..	..	..
1,219.70	Dairy Farm Intl	71	-1½	5.2	9.6
78.20	Farepak	350	..	2.4	19.9
101.00	Fleedtat	40	+1	11.3	..
276.30	Fyffes	98	+1	1.8	16.8
122.90	Geest†	171	+1	5.9	..
121.40	Greggs	1085	+15	2.2	20.0
335.00	Heinecare	400	+5	3.3	..
409.80	Iceland Group	148	+2	3.3	9.3
851.40	Kwik Save†	550	+14	4.4	9.8
9.77	Merchant Retail	11½	..	..	..
1,007.90	Morrison (W)	141	+5	0.9	16.5
205.00	Nurdin Peack	161	-1	5.1	8.9
185.30	Park Foods	123	..	2.4	24.9
2.10	Regina Hlth	1½	..	..	..
7,916.10	Sainsbury Jt	405	+12	3.8	14.4
5,016.60	Tesco	244	+7	4.1	12.2
110.80	Thorntons	172	..	3.6	14.1
153.90	Watson & Philip	263	+4	5.0	14.7

RETAILERS, GENERAL

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
17.80	Alexon	31	-1	..	..
213.40	Allders	207	-2	4.1	..
1,047.00	Argos Plc	349	+13	3.0	18.4
180.90	Ashley (Laura)	77	..	0.2	..
111.30	Aspreyt	133	+10	5.4	11.5
84.30	Austin Reed	208	-2½	3.3	10.4
62.10	Beattie (J) 'A'	133	..	5.8	17.4
49.90	Bentalls	119	-1	2.1	41.2
52.60	Bettervare	51	+8	6.9	5.5
11.10	Blacks Leist	35	..	8.0	..
344.90	Body Shop†	182	-10	1.5	16.0
4,706.60	Boots†	497	+13	3.9	15.8
11.40	Brown & Jackson	1½	+¼	..	..
313.90	Brown (N)†	215	+6	2.5	19.1
658.20	Burton	68	+1½	3.7	33.0
22.58	Carters	149	..	3.4	..
180.50	Carpetright	335	+5	3.7	19.7
284.60	Chrisies Intl	176	+18	1.4	31.1
51.80	Church	480	..	3.4	24.4
16.10	Clinton Cards	95	..	6.2	13.8
16.40	Clty Casuals	88	..	6.2	24.7
189.20	Courts Furnish	805	+10	0.9	40.8
2.96	Crown Eye†	185	-1½	6.8	8.0
285.80	DFS Furniture	272	+8	3.3	..
747.70	Dixons Grp	188	+10½	4.4	20.0
6.98	Eys (Wiebdon)	580	..	3.8	27.2
11.30	ERA Gp	9	..	..	..
18.10	Essex Furn	158	+4	3.4	..
153.50	Etam†	234	+2	4.1	13.0
284.50	Fine Art Devt	357	-12½	6.1	11.0
3.76	Fired Earth	66	..	..	..
14.70	Flying Flowers	81	+1	1.7	15.6
40.80	French Conn	255	..	..	10.8
159.10	Frost Group†	226	..	3.0	22.8
12.60	Gewe	56	..	3.3	20.0
27.80	Goldsmiths Gp	127	+4	1.9	22.8
5,442.50	GUS†	541	+17	3.1	15.5
42.30	Hartleys	185	+5	3.2	17.8
3.74	Hampden Grp	25	+2	5.0	72.0
399.50	Hse of Fraser	174	-6	3.6	15.7
16.50	Hughes (T.)†	80	..	4.0	13.1
2,888.10	Kingfisher	433	+19	4.3	11.4
15.30	Kleeneze	110	..	1.7	..
21.80	Liberty	303	..	2.0	..
363.30	Lloyds Chem	299	+1	4.0	9.6
721.80	MFI	124	+4	4.3	15.3
11,012.60	Marks Spencer†	395	+14½	3.0	17.6
278.00	Menzies (John)	500	..	2.9	12.3
37.60	Moss Bros	339	..	3.1	13.4
954.20	Next	255	+9	3.3	15.6
1.59	OEM	28	..	..	..
23.90	Oliver (G)	95	..	..	29.4
17.30	Partridge Fine	78	..	4.6	10.5
55.40	Peeras	16½	..	..	..
61.20	QS Hldgs	155	-5	4.2	17.0
13.40	Reno Grp	16	..	3.9	15.2
26.10	Raccays	132	-6	4.5	15.4
1,551.30	Sears	109	+3	4.3	18.5
68.90	Signet Group	23½	+2	..	8.1
1,302.00	Smith WH	467	+15	4.1	24.1
247.70	Sotheby	730	+15	3.8	31.5
902.90	Storehouse†	217	+4½	3.3	17.8
52.40	Stylo	180	+5	1.9	12.2
105.60	T & S Stores	163	..	4.8	11.6
39.90	Tie Rack	119	-1	1.9	14.0
1.40	Upton & Southn	4	..	..	..
3,529.90	Vendome†	505	+21	1.9	38.8
42.20	WEW Group	29	..	3.0	..
8.07	Wid of Leather	67	-2	1.1	..
60.90	Wyevale	159	..	3.6	16.8

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,603.20	Allied Domecq†	544	-8½	5.2	14.7
206.00	Bulmer (HP)	389	+1	3.6	22.2
68.80	Burn Stewart	116	-3	5.4	35.5
8,531.70	Grand Met	409	+13½	4.4	18.8
9,096.70	Guinness	451	+11	3.6	14.9
562.70	Highland Distl	442	+8	2.1	20.2
245.80	Macallan-Glen	211	+2	0.7	55.3
79.50	Macdn Mrtn 'A'†	685	-5	1.8	29.5
245.60	Matthew Clark	535	+3	4.2	12.5
8.37	Merrydown Wt	89	-4	4.5	..
163.00	Taunton Cider	149	+1	5.8	11.3

SUPPORT SERVICES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
185.50	ACE Group†	100	+3½	6.6	10.5
934.50	ADT	673	-12	..	..
16.70	Alphameric	40	+1	..	30.5
75.50	Auto Sec	64	-1	..	8.3
862.90	BET Ord†	103	-1	4.2	14.7
37.90	BHB Res	177	-1	3.6	20.7
61.80	BPP	235	+7	4.7	16.8
36.50	BSM	131	+1	6.2	11.1
3.88	Black & Edg	¼	..	..	..
142.00	Borland	500	-75	..	..
43.40	Brit Data Mgt	178	+1	3.8	..
7.59	Brooks Service	63	..	3.5	..
53.20	CRT Gp	79	-2	5.4	19.2
88.50	Capita Group	164	+3	2.1	20.8
784.30	Chubb Sec	284	-3	2.9	17.3
57.60	Comput People	235	..	1.3	63.5
34.60	Corp Services	62	+3	0.5	23.3
18.69	Coults Castig	56	+4	0.9	..
245.80	Davis Service	240	-1	4.2	16.1
8.98	Dudley Jenkins	75	..	5.4	16.6
16.90	EW Fact	93	..	6.6	7.0
37.50	El Data Prc	143	..	1.8	..
1,156.20	Hays	285	-4	2.7	19.4
127.90	Hogg Robinson	184	..	5.0	18.1
11.00	Holmes Protectn	25	..	..	1.5
7.10	Intl Cn & Data	11	..	..	5.6
423.40	ISS B Dkr	1631½	-40½	0.4	1.8
48.50	JBA Hldgs	150	+20	2.0	15.3
115.60	Johnson Clean	234	..	5.8	9.5
41.90	Kalamazoo	110	-2	3.9	12.4
29.00	Kewill Syst	239	-5	3.9	8.8
2.74	Lesa-Scot	17	..	..	..
17.40	LBMS	80	-17	..	..
43.80	Lep	4½	..	..	..
200.20	Lopica	324	+9	1.9	22.8
97.00	MDIS	97	-6	8.1	6.8
22.50	MMT Compt	200	+2	3.2	15.8
59.10	MR Data Mngt	106	+3	6.5	..
85.00	Macro 4	438	-2	5.7	12.3
1,346.90	Manpower	1809½	-6½	0.2	..
119.50	Micro Focus	830	-3	..	10.0
40.20	Microgen	102	..	8.9	10.2
194.70	Misys	409	..	2.5	..
49.20	MITIE Gp	197	+3	1.4	23.1
19.90	Novo Groupt	27	..	0.8	10.4
7.20	OIS Intl	24	+2	9.9	4.5
57.90	P & P	74	..	3.9	18.4
70.00	Michael Page	117	+2	2.5	28.7
46.20	Parity	135	+3	2.2	38.2
9.38	Pegasus	150	+3	4.2	15.1
5.16	Pheng	107	+7	4.7	..
55.50	Proudfoot	70	+2	6.2	12.0
32.50	RCO	305	..	6.2	10.6
10.00	Radius	36	+1	1.2	..
12.00	Real Time	171	..	2.9	13.0
73.20	Reed Executive	143	..	0.9	..
33.30	Reliance Sec	148	-2	4.3	..
2,227.60	Rentokil	228	+12	1.7	23.5
62.00	Ricardo Group	140	..	5.4	17.0
21.50	Rolfe & Nolan†	177	+½	2.8	27.5
139.00	Sage Gp	665	+18	2.1	..
783.50	Salvesen (C)†	270	+13	3.8	14.0
30.49	Sanderson Elect	79	+1	4.5	11.5
76.60	Select App	13½	..	..	..
378.60	Serco Gp	405	-1	1.1	24.6
166.40	Servo Gp	281	+1	1.6	25.6
4.88	Shered Cmp	80	-5	..	..
54.60	Sketchley	93	+1	4.3	15.6
37.00	Stat-Plus	172	-4	6.6	15.3
23.70	Unipalm	117	-3	..	..
15.00	Vistect	13	-½	3.8	7.1
10.00	WSP Hldgs	43	-1	5.5	25.2
71.20	Warner Howard	299	-4	3.3	13.8

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
23,802.40	BT†	382	+13	5.6	13.6
6,439.20	Cable Wireless†	385	+23½	2.8	15.8
70.80	Filtronic Com	169	+5	0.6	56.9
63.70	Securicor	1535	+40	0.2	38.0
769.50	Securicor 'A'	1002	+38	0.4	24.8
901.00	Security Serv	822	+44	0.9	26.0
6,346.70	Vodafone†	208½	+8½	1.8	27.0

TEXTILES & APPAREL

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
3.00	Albion	80	..	5.1	..
44.50	Alexdra W	132	-3	5.5	14.1
180.40	Allied Text	517	-9	3.2	15.9
2.80	Atkbot	84	..	12.1	28.7
1.94	Automagic	34	..	..	8.6
232.00	Baird (Wm)†	200	-3	5.6	17.1
4.28	Beckman (A)†	35	-2	12.8	..
126.40	Black (Peter)	229	+2	2.4	16.4
11.60	Bridport-Gundry†	118	+10	3.2	9.6
24.40	Br Mohair	184	-1	5.8	18.9
2.60	Carrcom	25	+1	..	..
4.58	Cassidy Bros	84	..	4.1	10.8
83.00	Chamb Phgpc	186	-1	5.0	24.1
165.20	Claremont Grt	306	+7	3.1	17.0
1,303.00	Coats Viyella†	187	-5	5.5	16.2
468.80	Courtaulds Text	459	+24	3.9	20.5
232.50	Dawson†	119	+2	3.2	..
166.90	Dewhirst (I)	131	+4½	1.6	18.5
5.02	Dibble Hsel	41	+1½	4.3	12.0
4.59	Drummond	26	..	..	11.7
1.77	Ebiel	14	..	..	..
7.94	Fawcett	68	-3½	9.0	11.5
16.90	Forminster	148	+2	2.8	..
1.80	Foster (John)	16	+1	..	..
11.20	French (Thos)	95	..	4.8	18.8
26.40	Gent SR	73	+2	3.9	..
18.50	Haggas	85	..	4.4	..
50.10	Halstone	15½	+2½	2.6	..
51.40	Helene Plc†	38	-½	9.7	10.7
54.50	Hickng Pntcst	234	-½	2.6	16.6
5.33	Honeysucklet	64	..	5.9	..
27.10	Horace Small	82	..	1.4	..
17.80	Jacques Vert	187	..	3.8	16.5
4.22	Jerome (S)	56	+1	1.8	7.1
59.30	Jones Stroud	343	-5	3.3	16.4
15.80	Lambert	128	..	6.7	12.1
102.80	Lamont	342	+3	4.6	11.4
78.00	Leeds†	271	-2	2.9	..
21.90	Leslie Wise Gp	63	..	7.9	13.3
5.84	Lyles (S)†	81	+3	5.4	8.4
46.10	Marling	28	..	3.2	..
1.92	PEX	10	..	..	..
14.00	Parkland†	158	..	4.0	9.4
388.50	Pentland	107	+2	3.4	21.2
14.50	Pittard	67	..	3.3	..
117.80	Readicutt	60½	+1	7.1	10.2
10.10	Rexmore†	65	-6	5.4	6.9
11.20	Richards	48	+7	5.3	..
2.25	SEET	56	..	..	..
93.00	Sherwood Gp	63	-1	4.6	9.6
8.18	Shiloh	140	-9	3.1	8.5
55.90	Sirdar	183	+5	6.6	14.9
47.10	Stirling Gp	54	+1	4.6	14.8
34.10	Strong & Fisher	20	..	6.2	13.7
15.40	UK Safety	40	..	8.1	9.8
7.95	Usher (Frank)	115	+1	7.8	8.8
35.90	Vivat	65	..	2.4	16.9
8.23	Wensum	110	+7	3.3	16.0
25.00	Yorklyde	250	+7	3.1	11.5

TRANSPORT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5.59	Air London	63	..	6.9	12.0
10,286.70	All Nippon Air	713	+16½	0.3	..
1,036.80	Assoc Br Ports	274½	+3½	2.2	21.9
4,838.80	BAA†	473	+4	2.5	18.4
162.90	Badgerline	129	+1	4.0	..
3,399.80	Br Airways†	356	-4	4.0	9.6
36.50	Caplan Tkn R	33	-2	..	..
21.00	Clarkson (H)	84	..	2.3	23.6
23.20	Dart†	151	-1	3.2	14.6
1,257.70	Eurotunnel Uts	283	+10	..	..
12.00	Fisher (James)	50	..	..	..
130.60	Forth Ports	465	-3	2.1	21.7
82.30	GRT Bust	230	+2	2.1	17.8
55.40	Go-Ahead	165	+3	3.0	20.5
107.10	Goode Durrant	199	+2	3.8	15.6
41.10	Intl Steam	137	-2	4.0	10.4
20.80	Jacobs (J)	69	+2	3.9	..
56.30	Lon O'Seas Frst	77	-1	6.3	1.8
357.60	Mersey Docks	400	+11	3.0	19.4
1,157.10	NFC†	187	+5	5.4	41.3
118.40	Nat Express	281	+6	3.3	16.8
431.80	Ocean Group	280	+14	6.4	14.1
27.00	Ocean Wilsns	68	..	5.9	9.8
3,684.30	P & O Dfd	611	+1	6.2	18.9
125.30	P & O 5.5%	188	-4	3.7	..
28.05	Seacon	93	+2	3.3	21.1
337.30	Stagecoach	225	-2	2.4	22.2
607.80	TNT	187	+3	..	..
313.80	Tibbet & Britn	710	-3	2.6	18.2
310.20	TDG	210	-3	5.7	14.1
30.80	Ugland†	127	..	2.4	..
31.80	Utd Carriers	84	+2	2.1	..

WATER

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,511.10	Anglian†	510	+11	5.8	11.5
51.80	Mid Kent Hdgst	298	..	4.9	10.1
2,017.50	North West†	538	+20	5.5	7.7
489.10	Northumbrian†	715	-8	4.5	7.7
1,924.10	Severn Trent	533	+24	5.5	7.5
107.30	South Staffs	1845	..	3.7	11.1
643.90	South West†	511	+6	6.4	7.5
983.10	Southern	581	+17	5.2	8.3
1,017.50	Thames†	483	+9	6.0	7.3
952.40	Welsh†	655	+31	5.9	7.2
758.30	Wessex	300	+17	5.1	7.8
1,018.10	Yorkshire†	507	+15	5.9	7.5

Source: Finstat

© USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited; .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Gro red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)					
2,350	Treas 12% 1995	100[illegible]xd†	-[illegible]	11.94	5.69
214	Gas 3% 1990-95	98[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.03	6.28
2,500	Exch 10¼% 1995	102[illegible]†	...	10.04	6.66
840	Treas 12¾% 1995	105	-[illegible]	12.14	6.81
770	Treas 14% 1996	107[illegible]†	-[illegible]	13.07	6.98
1,150	Treas 15¼% 1996	110	-[illegible]	13.86	7.39
808	Exch 13¼% 1996	107[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.31	7.38
3,480	Conv 10% 1996	103[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.65	7.87
1,290	Treas 13¼% 1997	110 †	...	12.05	7.92
3,700	Exch 10½% 1997	104[illegible]	...	10.02	8.01
5,550	Treas 8¾% 1997	101[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.63	8.15
830	Exch 15% 1997	116[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.86	8.29
3,650	Exch 9¾% 1998	103[illegible]xd†	-[illegible]	9.41	8.36
8,150	Treas 7¼% 1998	96[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.48	8.35
1,200	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	95[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.08	8.34
970	Treas 14% 1998-01	115[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.08	8.49
835	Treas 15½% 1998	122[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.66	8.39
3,909	Exch 12% 1998	111[illegible]	-[illegible]	10.78	8.50
1,900	Treas 9½% 1999	103[illegible]†	...	9.17	8.44
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)					
3,050	Exch 12¼% 1999	112[illegible]	-[illegible]	10.84	8.53
1,252	Treas 10½% 1999	107[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.78	8.47
6,800	Treas 6% 1999	90[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.61	8.46
1,798	Conv 10¼% 1999	106[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.60	8.52
5,358	Conv 9% 2000	102[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.81	8.48
3,171	Treas 13% 2000	119[illegible]†	+[illegible]	10.92	8.62
4,406	Treas 10% 2001	106[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.48	8.63
4,358	Treas 7% 2001	92[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.60	8.54
6,527	Treas 9¾% 2002	105[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.19	8.44
7,950	Treas 8% 2003	96[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.28	8.57
2,503	Treas 10% 2003	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.24	8.64
1,920	Treas 11½% 2001-04	112[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.18	8.76
543	Fund 3½% 1999-04	74[illegible]xd	+[illegible]	4.69	7.24
3,412	Conv 9½% 2004	106[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.96	8.57
8,500	Treas 6¾% 2004	88[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.62	8.40
4,842	Conv 9½% 2005	106[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.92	8.57
2,280	Treas 12½% 2003-05	122[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.22	8.83
3,900	Treas 7¾% 2006	94[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.18	8.46
2,008	Treas 8% 2002-06	96[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.23	8.53
3,150	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	116[illegible]xd†	+[illegible]	10.08	8.85
7,197	Treas 8½% 2007	100[illegible]†	+[illegible]	8.48	8.48
1,250	Treas 13½% 2004-08	129[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.46	8.83
5,321	Treas 9% 2008	104[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.63	8.46
LONGS (over 15 years)					
3,100	Treas 8% 2009	96[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.33	8.46
5,273	Conv 9% 2011	105[illegible]†	+[illegible]	8.56	8.42
5,351	Treas 9% 2012	105[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.54	8.41
1,000	Treas 5½% 2008-12	75[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.30	8.18
5,800	Treas 8% 2013	96[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.28	8.35
802	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	94[illegible]†	+[illegible]	8.23	8.35
7,550	Treas 8¾% 2017	104[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.40	8.33
1,000	Exch 12% 2013-17	131[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.10	8.56
UNDATED					
1,909	War Ln 3½%	41[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.35	...
475	Treas 2½%	29[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.41	..
INDEX-LINKED					
1,200	Treas IL 2% 1996	201[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.53	4.07
800	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.94	3.82
1,500	Treas IL 2½% 2001	165[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.37	3.88
1,300	Treas IL 2½% 2003	162[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.47	3.82
1,000	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	109	+[illegible]	3.48	3.81
1,650	Treas IL 2% 2006	169[illegible]†	+[illegible]	3.54	3.80
1,750	Treas IL 2½% 2009	153[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.58	3.82
2,100	Treas IL 2½% 2011	150[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.69	3.83
2,300	Treas IL 2½% 2013	130[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.64	3.82
2,700	Treas IL 2½% 2016	138[illegible]†	+[illegible]	3.68	3.85
2,750	Treas IL 2½% 2020	133[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.70	3.85
2,350	Treas IL 2½% 2024	110[illegible]xd†	+[illegible]	3.69	3.83
1,300	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	109[illegible]xd†	+[illegible]	3.72	3.86

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Philip Pangalos finds City analysts cautiously upbeat on 1995's prospects

Wary bulls warm to a recovery in the markets

After what would generously be described as a dismal year for shares in 1994, investors will gaze nervously into their crystal balls to see what 1995 holds.

Equity strategists, however, are playing it safe this time, after their ultra-optimistic predictions a year ago went horribly wrong. They are offering unusually wide spreads on their FT-SE 100 target forecasts for the coming year, predicting the FT-SE 100 index will end next year at a bearish 2,800 to a bullish 3,750.

The FT-SE index of leading shares had a dreadful year in 1994. Shareholders generally saw the value of their capital investments plunge as Britain's "feel-bad" recovery took a grip as consumer confidence faded.

This time last year, strategists' optimistic forecasts dreamed of a year-end FT-SE target of between 3,500 and 4,000. But the index of leading shares ended last week at a poorly 3,083.4 in spite of a late rally, nursing a loss of 335 points, or 9.8 per cent, since the start of the year. Investors would have fared much better if they had left their money in the building society.

It is worth noting, however, that the equity market may have suffered a fall of about 6 per cent in 1994 after dividend income is taken into account, but bonds fared even worse with gilt-edged losing some 11 per cent of their value.

Investors may look back on 1993 as a vintage year on the stock market after the FT-SE 100 gained 20.1 per cent, but the same cannot be said about 1994. Equities started the year in buoyant mood, albeit shortlived as the bears moved in and gloom spread about higher interest rates and the fragile economic recovery.

Consumer confidence in the country's economic prospects over the next 12 months and householders' own finances were then hit for six by the Budget and December's base rate rise.

Most City analysts believe that stock market investors are likely to enjoy a more profitable year in 1995, compared with the horrors of the past 12 months. Most believe the coming year will herald a more profitable time with several forecasting the FT-SE 100 could top the 3,500 level by the end of the year.

Michael Hughes, managing director of economics and strategy at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, is cautiously optimistic for UK prospects in 1995. He says: "We see ourselves going into 1995 with a reasonably buoyant set of economic numbers." BZW expects interest rates to rise to 7 per cent by mid-year, but not much higher, while a fiscal boost is anticipated as next year's Budget approaches.

Kleinwort's Edmond Warner expects the consumer to be "gasping for breath"

BZW's Michael Hughes is hopeful, putting the FT-SE 100 at 3,500 by the end of 1995

Mr Hughes said BZW has a more consumer stock bias to its recommendations, away from cyclicals and manufacturers that would be negatively affected by rising interest rates. Equities are expected to outperform bonds, while the value of overseas earners is seen favourably, especially British exporters of consumer goods to a recovering continental European market.

BZW has a FT-SE 100 index target of 3,500 for the end of 1995. GDP growth of about 3.1 per cent is expected, while sterling is seen going to $1.45, driven by dollar recovery.

"We do believe the conditions that have affected the market this year (rising bond yields) won't be as big a feature next year. The background conditions of the equity market are more supportive, though the story is one for 1996 rather than 1995," he added.

Robert Buckland, equity strategist at NatWest Securities, has pencilled in a more modest FT-SE 100 target of 3,400 at the end of next year.

However, he expects the index to hit new highs along the way, beyond last February's record of 3,520.3 at around the middle of 1995 (up to 3,600), as a 4 per cent dividend yield and 5 per cent real dividend growth offer good value.

He expects gilt yields to edge down towards 8 per cent. Growing political concerns and higher interest rates are expected to dampen sentiment later in the year. He puts it this way: "1995 is likely to be a year of two very different halves. In the first few months the driving force will be an improvement in international bond markets as the US economy slows down and the German interest rate outlook is helped by encouraging inflation news," he said.

"As the year progresses and investors start to think about 1996 they will realise that, for most of the world's economies, economic growth will be improving and so the fears of inflation will start to re-emerge. At home the election will loom ever larger as the year progresses."

NatWest expects equities to outperform bonds, with a 15 per cent gain forecast for equities in 1995, compared with a prediction of a 9 per cent gain for gilts.

Mr Buckland said next year's main worries for shares are likely to involve potential weakness in the American equity market and domestic political concerns, especially among foreign investors. "A lot of potential political risk is already priced into the market, but investors do not like uncertainty," he said.

International investors, dominated by US players, have been more prominent in equities in recent years. They accounted for 16.3 per cent of the UK equity market last year, compared with 13.1 per cent in 1992 and a mere 7 per cent in 1963.

NatWest expects interest rates to rise by half a percentage point in the first quarter, with another half-point rise expected later in the year. Rates are seen peaking at 7¼ per cent.

Next year's UK economic growth is forecast to slow slightly to 3.2 per cent more or less in line with the Treasury's forecast of 3.25 per cent GDP growth. But NatWest is very cautious on consumer spending, with 2 per cent growth forecast, against a 2½ per cent prediction by the Treasury. "It ain't too good for the 'feel-good' factor," Mr Buckland added.

Earnings growth for UK companies is forecast at 16 per cent for 1995, giving a prospective price/earnings multiple of 13.4 times 1995 earnings. NatWest's yield target stands at 4.6 per cent for 1995, against nearer 4 per cent this year.

Mr Buckland remains keen on manufacturing companies, especially those with an export bias or strong overseas earners, while dividend yield and dividend growth stocks are expected to continue to provide attractions to investors. Favoured stocks include BPB, BOC, BTR, Delta, Glaxo, Thorn EMI, Emap, Tesco, Guinness, BT, Barclays, United Biscuits, South Western Electricity and Standard Chartered.

Robert Buckland, NatWest, says the election will be a factor

He is cautious on consumer areas, though tax incentives may lift sentiment, with a £4 billion fiscal giveaway forecast. "We think there are better times ahead in terms of the stock market in 1995," he added.

Edmond Warner, head of UK strategy at Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank, has gone for a FT-SE 100 target of 3,500 by the end of next year. He says of next year's investment prospects: "The most important investment debate next year will centre round how this cycle will end and when it will end. Can the cycle run through 1995 and into 1996?

The uncertainty about the economic cycle will hang over the market all year." Mr Warner said that 1995 could be slower than people expect.

He is forecasting only 2.7 per cent growth next year as house price and job security worries "leave the consumer gasping for breath". Most GDP forecasts for 1995 range from 2½ per cent to 4½ per cent.

UK interest rates are seen rising in the first quarter of 1995 and climbing to 7¾ per cent by the end of the year. In America, Kleinwort expects strong economic growth to prompt the Federal Reserve to increase interest rates by a further 2 per cent.

Mr Warner adds that further political uncertainties also lie ahead. "The market has not yet fully taken on board the political risk that is out there. In 12 months' time the market may become very nervous about the prospect of a Labour government."

Kleinwort expects next year's UK earnings growth to slow to about 10 per cent (14 per cent) as higher pay rises and buoyant raw material prices squeeze company profits, putting the market as a whole on a p/e of 12.5 times (13.7). Next year's yield is forecast to climb to 4.7 per cent (4.4 per cent), while bond yields are expected to remain at about 8.5 per cent.

As for the favoured sector, Kleinwort is keen on global consumer stocks (drinks, drugs, tobacco and food manufacturing) and financials (insurance, banking and merchant banking).

David Miles, chief UK economist at Merrill Lynch, the Wall Street stockbroker, has a FT-SE 100 forecast of "3,250 or higher" by the end of 1995. "Equities will outperform bonds in 1995," he said, adding that Merrill sees inflation picking up during the year and short-term interest rates rising. "We don't expect any recovery in bond yields during the course of the year."

As far as interest rates are concerned, Mr Miles said: "It wouldn't surprise us at all if interest rates have not changed at all by March 1995. But inflation is only going one way and that's upwards. We've got inflation rising to pretty much the top of the Government's target range of 1-4 per cent by the end of the year."

Joe Rooney, UK and European strategist at Lehman Brothers, is forecasting an end-1995 FT-SE 100 target of 3,500. Mr Rooney, who at the start of 1994 expected UK stocks to see a correction, has current preferred stocks including BAA, BAT Industries, British Airways, Cable and Wireless, Hanson, Rolls-Royce, Royal Dutch/Shell, Whitbread and Zeneca.

Chris Clark of Credit Lyonnais Laing is looking for a FT-SE 100 target of 3,500 for the end of 1995.

Nick Knight, head of strategy at Nomura, was the market's "raging bull" this time last year. Having come close with his FT-SE predictions the year before, he started the year with a bullish FT-SE 100 forecast of 4,000 by the end of 1994, before changing his tune to a more bearish one in February and again in June.

"Our optimism at the start of the year arguably was overdone, but so was everybody," he said.

Mr Knight remains bearish. He expects the FT-SE 100 index to end 1995 at 3,200. He says the bear market is likely to continue for some time with stocks tumbling during the winter.

Nomura's view is that interest rates worldwide are going to go up more than people currently anticipate. As a result growth rates of economies will be reduced and that will affect earnings.

Ian Harnett, equity strategist at Société Générale Strauss Turnbull, is one of the most optimistic, believing the index will finish the year somewhere between 3,500 and 3,750. "We feel that the UK economy is going to be one of the fastest growing in Europe at 4.25 per cent and this will provide good strong earnings growth. The pessimism of the past year has been overdone." He said companies would become increasingly cash rich and this would spark more mergers and acquisitions.

Robin Aspinall of Panmure Gordon, who gave the most pessimistic forecast for 1994, is again taking a similar bearish stance. He stuck with his forecast that the FT-SE would end this year at the 2,800 level. He believes top stocks will fare no better in 1995 and is plumping for another 2,800 finish. "I think we are in the throes of a multi-year correction. We are correcting everything that's happened since 1974. This is a bear market. It's almost over and there's a bull market on the way," Mr Aspinall said.

He believes there will be a new year rally on the stock market but it would be only short-lived. He says that after an initial rally at the start of 1995, shares will run out of steam and then encounter a difficult two quarters. "I think [the fall for equities] next year will be less dramatic, but the equity market has a bit of a struggle confronting the reality that bond yields are going to remain high. The index should perform better in 1996 and is likely to close at 3,300."

Overall, analysts and strategist are optimistic on prospects for continued economic recovery, even if interest rates do climb higher. Investors will no doubt be hoping for a prosperous 1995, after the disappointment of 1994. If they want to be safe, they should look at companies with intrinsic earnings growth, healthy exports, strong balance-sheets and high-quality management — if that's not asking too much!

THE TIMES Aberlour Hogmanay Quiz

Today's literature questions in *The Times Aberlour Hogmanay Quiz* have a distinctly Scottish flavour – although few people probably realise that George Orwell's grim novel was written in the land of Robert Burns.

Aberlour, the classic Speyside malt whisky, and Britain's greatest newspaper have challenged readers with questions on history, art and literature, geography, sport, food and drink, and general knowledge.

When you have the answers to all the 30 questions, send them in and you could win a sporting weekend for two, with salmon fishing and golf as well as a tour of the Aberlour Distillery.

Even if you fail to win one of the 102 top prizes, your study will not go unrewarded. Every entrant who completes the 30 questions by the closing date will receive a miniature bottle of Aberlour.

The prizes

The first two correct entries drawn at random after the closing date will each win a sporting weekend for two on Speyside, Scotland. The winners will fly to Aberdeen and spend two nights at Craigellachie Hotel. Salmon fishing and golf will be available and there will be a tour of the Aberlour Distillery.

The next 50 correct entries will receive prizes of 35cl bottles of Aberlour single malt, each with two Riedel malt whisky glasses.

A further 50 correct entries will each win a 70cl bottle of 10-year-old Aberlour Single Highland Malt.

Every entrant who completes the 30 questions by January 9, 1995, will receive a miniature bottle of Aberlour.

How To Enter

Every day this week *The Times* will publish five questions. When you have the answers to all 30 questions, send them on a piece of paper together with your name, address and daytime phone number to: *The Times*/Aberlour Hogmanay Quiz, 18-19 Whitefriars Street, London EC58 2NG.

All entries must be received by midnight on January 9, 1995. Winners will be chosen from all correct entries received by this date. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

Day Three Questions

1) Which poem opened Robert Burns' first collection of poems in 1786?

2) Who said: "Oor Robin should have had twa wives"?

3) Who wrote the sonnet In The Sand Of Mull during his 1831 tour of Scotland?

4) In what year did George Orwell complete his novel Nineteen Eighty Four on ther island of Jura?

5) What, according to a Speyside legend, "leapt" from the water when casks of Aberlour fell into the Spey one year?

Tokyo shares set to end year with gain of 13%

By Philip Pangalos

AFTER a year of patchy recovery, Japanese share prices look like ending the year with an average gain of more than 13.2 per cent.

With the London market closed for the long Christmas holiday, attention turned to Far East and other overseas markets that were trading.

Tokyo shares closed slightly lower after profit taking. The Nikkei average ended down 15.39 points at 19,711.36.

Blue-chip buying after midday, which brokers said was from a foreign broker and leading local houses, erased morning losses. But brokers said that last-minute selling pushed down stock indices before the close.

Brokers said the underlying sentiment remains firm and the market will try to push up the Nikkei to the 20,000 level before the new year holidays.

A lack of fresh news from the United States markets overnight due to a holiday sidelined many local investors, and dealers adjusted their positions as yesterday was the last trading day for December settlement.

□ NEW YORK: On Wall Street, shares extended their rally into late morning trading, fuelled by strength in the long bond and a surge in shares of ITT, with the Dow Jones industrial average ahead by 26.58 points to 3,860.01 at midday.

□ FRANKFURT: German shares showed slight gains in the wake of a three-day Christmas weekend. The Dax index finished at 2,106.15, up 0.58 per cent from 2,094.01 at last Friday's close.

□ PARIS: French share prices shed some of the gains made on Monday in very light year-end trading on the Paris bourse. The CAC 40 index finished the day down 0.45 per cent to 1,957.75.

□ SINGAPORE: Shares closed slightly higher in the lightest trading recorded so far this year, with most investors away for the Christmas holiday. The 30-share Straits Times industrials index rose 7.96 points to 2,227.25 on a volume of only 52.1 million shares.

□ HONG KONG: Markets were closed.

□ SYDNEY: Markets were also closed.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.10	1.93
Austria Sch	18.15	16.65
Belgium Fr	53.16	48.86
Canada $	2.271	2.111
Cyprus Cyp£	0.786	0.731
Denmark Kr	10.18	9.38
Finland Mkk	8.05	7.35
France Fr	8.92	8.22
Germany Dm	2.59	2.38
Greece Dr	398.00	373.00
Hong Kong $	12.61	11.61
Ireland Pt	1.06	0.98
Italy Lira	2645.00	2490.00
Japan Yen	169.00	153.00
Malta	0.619	0.564
Netherlds Gld	2.880	2.650
Norway Kr	11.23	10.43
Portugal Esc	261.50	243.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.35
Spain Pta	213.50	199.50
Sweden Kr	12.21	11.41
Switzerland Fr	2.19	2.09
Turkey Lira	refer	56888.0
USA $	1.644	1.514

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5465 (-0.0162)
German mark
2.4404 (-0.0151)
Exchange index
79.7 (-0.7)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2369.3 (+55.0)
FT-SE 100
3083.4 (+69.8)
New York Dow Jones
3833.43 (+26.29)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
19633.53 (+470.10)

THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY

Interims: None due.
Finals: None due.
AGMs: None due.
EGMs: Birkby, Haynes Publishing Group, Telemetrix, Trio Holdings.

TOMORROW

Interims: None due.
Finals: None due.
AGMs: Mercury Selected Trust, Metro Radio, River & Merc Extra Income, TR Far East Income Trust.
EGMs: Benson Group, Coal Investments, John I Jacobs, Powell Duffryn, RJB Mining.

FRIDAY

Interims: None due.
Finals: None due.
AGMs: Creston Land Estates, Crossroards Oil Group, Jupiter European Inv.
EGMs: Union.

WALL STREET

	Dec 27 midday	Dec 23 close
AMP Inc	72	71
AMR Corp	52	53
AT & T	51	51
Abbott Labs	33	33
Advanced Micro	23	22
Aetna Life	47	47
Ahmanson (HF)	16	16
Air Prod & Chem	45	45
Albertson's	29	29
Alcan Aluminm	25	25
Alco Standard	63	62
Allied Signal	35	35
Alum Co of Am	85	84
Amax Gold Inc	5	5
Amerada Hess	45	44
Amer Brands	37	37
Amer El Power	33	33
Amer Express	29	29
Amer Genl Corp	28	27
Amer Home Pr	63	63
Amer Intl	99	98
Amer Stores	26	26
Ameritech	41	41
Amoco	59	59
Anheuser-Busch	51	51
Apple Computer	39	38
Archer Daniels	21	20
Armco	6	6
Armstrng Wrld	38	38
Asarco	28	28
Ashland Oil	34	34
Atl Richfield	102	102
Auto Data Pro	58	58
Avery Dennison	35	35
Avon Products	60	61
Baker Hughes	18	18
Baltim Gas & El	22	21
Banc One	25	25
BankAmerica	40	39
Bank of NY	30	30
Bankers Tr NY	57	56
Barnett Banks	39	39
Bausch & Lomb	34	33
Baxter Intl	27	27
Bectn Dicknsn	49	49
Bell Atlantic	51	50
BellSouth	54	53
Black & Decker	24	24
Block (H&R)	37	37
Boeing	47	47
Boise Cascade	26	26
Borden Inc	12	12
Bristol Myrs Sq	59	59
Browning Ferris	28	28
Brunswick	18	18
Burlington Nthn	48	49
CBS	53	53
CNA Financial	66	66
CPC Intl	52	52
CSX	69	68
Campbell Soup	44	43
Can Pacific	15	15
Cptl Cities ABC	84	84
Carolina Pwr	26	26
Caterpillar	55	54
Central & SW	23	22
Champion Intl	36	37
Chase Manhat	34	34
Chemical Bk	36	36
Chevron Corp	45	44
Chrysler	49	48
Chubb Corp	77	76
Cigna Corp	61	61
Citicorp	40	41
Clorox	59	58
Coastal Corp	25	25
Coca Cola	52	51
Colgate-Palmolive	62	62
Columbia Gas	24	24
Compaq Comp	39	39
Comp Ass Int	48	47
Conagra	31	30
Cons Edison	25	25
Cons Nat Gas	35	35
Cons Rail	50	49
Cooper Inds	34	34
Corning Inc	30	30
Crown Cork	38	37
Dana Corp	23	23
Dayton Hudson	69	72
Deere	66	66
Delta Air Lines	50	49
Deluxe Corp	26	26
Detroit Edison	26	26
Digital Equip	34	34
Dillard Dept St	26	27
Disney (Walt)	46	46
Dominion Res	36	36
Donelley (RR)	29	29
Dover Corp	51	51
Dow Chemical	68	67
Dow Jones	30	30
Dresser	19	19
Duke Power	38	38
Dun & Bradstreet	54	54
Du Pont	56	55
Eastman Kodak	48	47
Eaton Corp	49	48
Emerson Elec	62	61
Engelhard Corp	22	22
Enron Corp	29	29
Entergy	21	21
Ethyl Corp	9	9
Exxon	61	61
FMC Corp	57	57
FPL Group	34	34
Federal Express	59	59
Fed Nat Mtge	72	72
First Chicago	47	47
First Interstate	68	68
First Union Rty	6	6
Fleet Finl Grp	32	32
Fluor Corp	44	43
Ford Motor	27	26
GTE Corp	30	30
Gannett	53	53
Gap Inc Del	29	29
Gen Dynamics	43	43
Gen Electric	50	49
Gen Mills	57	57
Gen Motors	41	41
Gen Reinsurance	127	128
Gen Signal	31	31
Genuine Parts	36	36
Georgia Pac	74	73
Gillette	75	75
Glaxo ADR	20	20
Goodrich (BF)	44	44
Goodyear Tire	33	33
Grace (W&R)	38	39
Gt Atl Pac Tea	17	17
Great Wstn Fin	16	16
Halliburton	34	34
Harcourt General	35	35
Heinz (HJ)	37	37
Hercules	114	114
Hershey Foods	49	48
Hewlett Packard	100	100
Hilton Hotels	67	67
Home Depot	46	46
Homestake Mng	16	16
Honeywell	29	29
Household Intl	37	37
Houston Inds	35	35
Humana	22	22
ITT Corp	87	83
Illinois Tool	43	42
Illinova	21	21
INCO	29	29
Ingersoll Rand	32	31
Inland Steel	35	34
Intel Corp	63	62
IBM	74	73
Intl Flav & Fr	46	46
Intl Paper	76	76
James River Va	20	21
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	55	55
Kellogg	58	58
Kerr-McGee	46	46
Kimberly-Clark	51	51
Kmart	12	13
Knight-Ridder	51	50
Lilly (Eli)	65	65
Limited Inc	18	18
LIN Brdcstng	144	145
Lincoln Nat	35	35
Litton	36	35
Liz Claiborne	16	16
Lockheed	72	71
Louisiana Pac	28	28
MCI Comm	17	18
Marriott Int	27	27
Marsh & McLnn	79	79
Masco Corp	23	23
May Dept St	33	34
Maytag Corp	14	14
McDonalds	29	28
McDonnell D	143	142
McGraw Hill	67	67
Mead Corp	49	50
Medtronic	54	54
Mellon Bk	31	31
Melville Corp	30	31
Merck Inc	39	39
Merrill Lynch	36	35
Minnesota Mine	53	52
Mobil Corp	85	84
Monsanto	69	69
Morgan (JP)	55	56
Motorola Inc	58	57
Natl Medical	14	13
Natl Semi	19	19
Natl Service Ind	25	25
Navistar Int	15	15
NBD Bancorp	28	28
NY Times A	21	21
Newmont Mng	34	34
Niag Mohawk	13	13
Nike B	75	75
NL Industries	12	12
Noram Energy	5	5
Nordstrom	41	44
Norfolk Sthm	60	60
Nthn State Pwr	45	45
Norwest Corp	22	22
Nynex Corp	37	36
Occidental Pet	19	19
Ohio Edison	19	19
Oracle Systems	44	43
Oryx Energy Co	11	11
Owens Corning	30	30
PNC Financial	22	21
PPG Industries	38	39
Paccar Inc	44	44
Pacificorp	18	18
Pac Enterprises	20	21
Pac Gas & Elect	24	24
Pac Telesis	29	28
Pall Corp	19	19
Panhandle East	19	19
Parker Hannifin	45	45
Peco Energy	25	24
Penney (JC)	43	43
Pennzoil	43	44
Pepsico	36	36
Pfizer	77	77
Phelps Dodge	60	59
Philip Morris	56	56
Phillips Pet	33	33
Pitney Bowes	32	32
Polaroid	32	32
PriceCostco	12	12
Procter & Gmbl	62	62
Providian	30	30
Pub Serv E & G	27	27
Quaker Oats	30	30
Ralston Purina	44	44
Raychem Corp	35	35
Raytheon	63	63
Reebok Intl	39	39
Reynolds Metals	49	49
Roadway Srvcs	55	55
Rockwell Intl	35	35
Rohm & Haas	58	58
Royal Dutch	107	107
Rubbermaid	29	28
Safeco Corp	51	52
St Paul's Cos	45	45
Salomon Inc	37	37
Santa Fe Pac	17	12
Sara Lee Corp	25	25
Scecorp	14	14
Schering Plough	74	74
Schlumberger	50	50
Scott Paper	69	68
Seagram	30	29
Sears Roebuck	46	46
Shell Trans	64	64
Sherwin Wlms	32	32
Skyline Corp	17	17
Snap-On-Tools	33	33
Southern Co	20	20
Sthwestern Bell	41	41
Sprint Corp	27	27
Stanley Works	37	37
Sun Company	28	28
Sun Microsys	37	37
Suntrust	49	49
Supervalu	25	25
Sysco Corp	26	25
TRW Inc	66	65
TCC Inds	2	2
Tandem Comp	17	16
Tandy Corp	50	50
Teledyne	20	20
Temple Inland	45	45
Tenneco	42	42
Texaco	61	61
Texas Inst	74	73
Texas Utilities	32	32
Textron	50	50
Time Warner	34	33
Times-Mirror	31	31
Timken	34	34
Torchmark	35	35
Toys R Us	34	34
Transamerica	49	49
Travelers	33	32
Tribune	54	53
Tyco Labs	48	47
UST Inc	27	27
UAL	89	89
USX Marathon	16	16
Unicom	23	24
Unilever NV	117	115
Union Camp	48	48
Union Carbide	30	29
Union Pacific	46	46
Unisys Corp	8	8
USAIR Group	4	4
USF&G Corp	13	13
US Life	34	34
US West	36	36
United Tech	62	62
Unocal Corp	26	26
Upjohn	31	31
VF Corp	49	48
WMX Tech	26	25
Wal-Mart Stores	21	21
Warner-Lambert	77	77
Wells Fargo	146	146
Westinghouse El	12	12
Weyerhaeuser	38	38
Whirlpool	52	51
Whitman	16	16
Winn Dixie	52	51
Woolworth	15	14
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	48	48
Xerox	99	100
Yellow Corp	22	21

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هكذا من الأصل

Joanna Pitman regrets the demise of service with a smile in petrol stations

Japan pumps up for deregulation

Japan's motorists are a rather pampered lot. Not only can they buy cars equipped with heated vibrating seats and computerised map route search systems to help to save them from getting lost, they also have five-star luxury petrol stations.

Not for the Japanese our self-service approach to filling the tank with petrol. pull up at a branch of Tokyo Gas or any other petrol station in Japan and you can sit back to enjoy the show. Three smiling assistants leap forward, energetically rolling up the sleeves of their immaculate overalls.

One pulls down a pump from a pully arrangement on the ceiling and begins filling your tank. Another soaps your windscreen and windows and polishes them dry while a third offers to empty your ashtray and to give your car a puff of fragrant spray. As you pull away to a flurry of bowing heads, a fourth assistant hurls himself into the oncoming traffic to halt the cars and make room for you to pull out into the street.

Anyone wishing to sample such delights should book their flights to Tokyo soon. for fundamental changes in the Japanese oil Industry are imminent and they are expected to spell the demise of Japan's petrol pump *politesse*. Next month, a final proposal will be put forward in parliament detailing the planned deregulation of the Japanese oil industry that is to be set in motion in March 1996.

On that date a law on petroleum product import restrictions will expire that is expected effectively to end the monopoly on oil imports currently held by 11 oil companies. It will open up the importing and storage business to newcomers.

The long-term effect will be to bring petrol into line with international prices through increased competition. The deregulation will also result in a change in the organisation of the retail petrol market, including the introduction of self-service stations.

For foreign oil companies and trading houses, opportunities for capital tie-ups with the newly registered importers will be opened up and analysts see potential in the longer term for foreign oil companies to enter the Japanese retail petrol market directly. "This is a good opportunity for foreign players to begin to form links with future importers and to start thinking about the Japanese domestic retail business.

"Petrol is expensive in Japan (134 yen or 89 pence per litre for unleaded high-octane — four times the US cost and twice the UK cost) and so margin benefits are very attractive even for foreign oil companies. Prices will probably go down, but margins should still remain attractive" said Lalita Gupta, infrastructure analyst at UBS Securities, the broker, in Tokyo.

The immediate impact of deregulation, however, is expected to be to prompt bulk users such as agricultural co-operatives and trading houses, which now buy oil products from oil companies, to begin importing oil products for themselves.

"We expect the trading houses to become the most active of the newly registered importers that will be allowed to start procuring oil products directly from overseas. They may invest substantially and begin constructing refineries outside Japan aimed at their anticipated new business of transporting and storing oil products. Most of the nine leading trading houses are already bulk users or purchasers of oil products at the moment," added Ms Gupta.

Showa Shell Sekiyu, the Japanese oil company 50 per cent owned by Shell, is expected to be more vulnerable than most to the loss of petrol imports to trading companies and to the anticipated reduction in retail petrol prices.

Financially, the company has been significantly weakened by foreign exchange trading losses which, when revealed last year, showed speculation on the yen/dollar rate over several years had caused cumulative losses of Y166 billion.

The company was forced to delve into its fixed assets — land, building and machinery holdings — to minimise the effect on its profits. With its weakened balanced sheet, Showa Shell Sekiyu is expected to be hit hard by new competition that will result from the liberalisation of the market. Japan's lack of any substantial energy resources of its own has historically forced it into an unusually heavy reliance on imported oil, making Japanese industry highly vulnerable to price fluctuations. But since the oil shocks of the 1970s, the Japanese Government has been attempting to diversify energy supplies, and encouraging the development of new sources.

A Director-General of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said: "Nuclear power is potentially going to account for a far larger proportion of our power supply than we had expected. Our policy direction is now one of specific and explicit encouragement of energy development outside the oil sector.

"In 1992 oil accounted for 58 per cent of our energy sources, coal for 16 per cent and nuclear energy for just 10 per cent with the rest coming from other minor sources. By the year 2010 we hope to have changed that to a 47 per cent dependancy on oil, 15 per cent on coal, and 17 per cent on nuclear energy"

Pay deal research challenges ministers' argument

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

PAY settlements are picking up as the economy improves, a survey of wage deals says today.

Although government figures show average earnings increases to be rising, ministers insist that this is because of bonus and other payments, and maintain that they have no evidence yet of any upward movement in actual pay deals.

However, business leaders have already made clear their concern about wage increases on the basis of independent pay evidence from the CBI, EEF engineering employers and pay analysts.

In the latest independent study, Incomes Data Services, the pay research company, says that the latest wage increases "confirm the signs of a gradual pick-up in settlement levels during the course of 1994".

IDS says that its survey of pay deals in the final three months of this year shows that three quarters are now providing for increases of 3 per cent or more — considerably ahead of inflation.

The remainder run between 2.2 and 2.9 per cent, with none below that level — which was the inflation rate at the start of the period examined. No new pay freezes were recorded.

New final quarter settlements include deals worth 4.8 per cent at Hewlett-Packard, and 3.5 per cent at Ford. Other settlements include 3 per cent rises at Sony Manufacturing and Rank Xerox and for retail staff of the Waterstone's book chain.

IDS says that such deals indicate "an upward trend in settlement levels since the third quarter", confirming signs of a pick-up in settlements identified earlier in the year.

Forthcoming deals show no signs either of any decline in the trend, with rises effective in January of 2.9 per cent at Ciba Pigments, 3 per cent at Dunlop Topy Wheels and 3.5 per cent for staff of the Kent Reliance Building Society.

IDS's study says that settlements have now been reached for 1994 for all the major public sector pay bargaining groups, and that they are "generally lower" than deals in the private sector.

The researchers say that, in spite of the Government's freeze on budgets from which public sector rises have been funded, there have been no public sector pay freezes. "Instead, increases have been fairly close to the rate of inflation," the researchers add.

Looking at the statements on pay made by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, in his Budget speech, IDS concludes that "some creative rewriting of policy" on pay has taken place, with the Government running an unofficial policy allowing for pay rises while emphasising officially its paybill freeze.

IDS says: "Roughly speaking, the policy is now softer on pay increases and tougher on the job cuts that are required to finance them."

Managers who have to wield the axe in America face stress-related burnout

Survivor sickness is stalking firms in US that have fallen victim to job cuts, reports

Sean Mac Carthaigh

Executive stress: Michael Douglas and Charlie Sheen, who found being boss a tough proposition in *Wall Street*

Even as the Federal Reserve moves to dampen the strong growth of the US economy, "downsizing", the buzz-word for the Nineties, is still in vogue across corporate America.

While much attention has been focused on the unemployed victims of mass sackings, observers say many middle and senior managers who carried out the dismissal orders are coming down with survivor sickness. And the consequences of "burnout" could ruin companies that ignore it.

Managers in downsized companies find themselves under more stress than at any time in their careers. Having been trained to build and expand, they have carried out the instructions to tear down and minimise. They hire nobody, but they fire frequently, often for no fault of the employee. With staff numbers reduced by 30 per cent, they are asked to increase productivity by 20 per cent. Their budgets are heavily cut, and they are told they will be cut again soon. They have to work harder, longer hours, and motivate their workers to do the same, for little or no extra pay.

The latest surveys find survivors of corporate downsizing are likely to have low morale and to do only what is asked of them. The American Management Association says that only one third of companies that cut staff between 1988 and 1993 saw their worker productivity increase.

Of 150 executives polled from the largest 1,000 companies in the US, 33 per cent said the potential for employee burnout at downsized firms was very high, and 52 per cent said it was fairly high. Three out of four executives believe the threat of burnout is greater now than 20 years ago. And 65 per cent say managers work too many hours, are exhausted at the end of the day and take home too much work.

Quinn Spitzer, a management specialist in the New York area, said recently that many employees are simply no longer willing to do more than their set tasks. "We're creating in the United States one of the most jaundiced work forces that I've seen in a long time," he said.

"Workers are saying, 'the company's values and my values will never be reconciled, and as a consequence I'll park myself here until better opportunities come along'."

At management level such an attitude will generate a disloyal culture where enthusiasm and innovation are considered to be the hallmark of the guileless fool. As well as seeing whole layers of management being wiped out above them, thus diminishing the hope of being promoted, many managers also worry that they will be next to get the chop. Last year, an estimated 600,000 managers were laid off in America.

Chief executives are also overlooking what may be the most insidious consequence of all for a downsizing company; the trauma suffered by the managers who carry out the sackings. Every firm has stories of cold-blooded managers who delight in firing other employees, but few really exist. Psychiatrists report that managers who have had to fire wave after wave of their staff are filled with self-hatred. Mass sacking often has a profound effect on the self-esteem of the person handing out the dismissal notices, especially in America, where the social security net to catch a sacked worker is inadequate by European standards.

The effects have been compounded, one Harvard psychiatrist says, by the refusal of companies to acknowledge that restructuring has a negative side. This creates a taboo about even discussing the misery of sacking employees and denies managers the chance to sympathise with one another, increasing individual stress.

With some shareholders placing chief executives under enormous pressure to generate short-term profits, downsizing is likely to continue, and there appears to be no easy solution to the burnout that comes in its wake.

Gary Fellers, author of *Why Things Go Wrong*, the latest book on burnout, believes that most companies could cut stress and its consequences simply by stopping the annual or monthly employee performance appraisal system, which has an almost entirely negative effect, generating competition internally instead of with business competitors, and encouraging "boss-watching".

Dr Fellers urges managers to take four or five short breaks a day "not complaining down at the canteen but just watching the rain, or looking at children playing".

Corporate US, page 34

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Air France fights Fr1.5bn EC order

AIR FRANCE, the national airline, has asked the European Court of Justice to annul an EC decision asking it to repay Fr1.5 billion to Caisse des Depots et Consignations (CDC), the state controlled bank. The Commission ruled in July that the subscription by the CDC of two Air France bonds issues totalling Fr1.5 billion was illegal aid. The court's decision affected only a small part of the aid packages to Air France. Europe's private airlines, including British Airways, have complained that the latest, much larger "final" rescue package is anti-competitive and constitutes illegal state aid.

A statement from the court said: "[Air France] denies that the subscription ... to the bonds ... and to progressive interest subordinated notes ... can be qualified as state aid." The statement was published in the European Union's official journal of December 24. The Commission's decision on the CDC subscription was taken in July at the same time that it cleared a Fr20 billion capital increase into the state-controlled airline. Air France's action was brought before the European Court of First Instance. It argued that the issues were normal "market operations" and that the CDC acts independently of the French Government, the statement said.

GA's full-time pensions

GENERAL ACCIDENT is giving its part-time workers full-time pension rights backdated to 1976. The Perth-based company announced its decision to staff in a circular distributed with its Christmas pay slips. The MSF general union, which has asked the company for the move, congratulated General Accident for honouring the spirit of the recent European court decision. MSF says that some part-timers would gain pension rights for an extra 13 years service.

Japanese lottery row

JAPAN'S pioneering savings scheme linked to a lottery is causing controversy. Johnan Shinkin Bank, a small credit institution, launched it in October but the country's two associations of credit unions swiftly introduced rules banning schemes having anything to do with lotteries. Yesterday, however, the Fair Trade Commission, Japan's consumer watchdog, told the rulemakers to lift the ban or face legal action under anti-monopoly laws.

Portugal privatises

PORTUGAL has sold 19.5 per cent of Banco Fomento e Exterior, the state-owned trade bank, through the Lisbon stock exchange for 19.4 billion escudos (£77.3 million). The exchange said bidding for the shares was oversubscribed. The shares will be quoted in Lisbon from January 2. Portugal aims to continue its privatisation programme by selling off stakes in Portugal Telecom and the production arm of EDP, the state electricity company.

Credit Suisse chosen

CREDIT SUISSE, the main banking arm of the Swiss financial group CS Holding, confirmed that the Hungarian Government had chosen it as lead bidder in the privatisation of Budapest Bank. A spokesman said its due diligence examination of the bank would form the basis for a formal offer, which should be ready within three months. *The Wall Street Journal* reported that Credit Suisse had edged out Allied Irish Banks and the Dutch ING Bank.

Time Warner venture

TIME WARNER is near a deal with US West and two Japanese partners to form a $400 million venture to develop cable television systems in Japan, aiming to capture one third of the country's rapidly growing market. *The Wall Street Journal* reported on Tuesday. Time Warner is also pushing Itochu and Toshiba, two minority holders in Time Warner Entertainment, to help pay for cable-TV expansion in the US. Itochu executives told the newspaper.

Mercedes racing back

MERCEDES-BENZ, the German luxury car manufacturer, will report strong profits for 1994 in contrast to a loss of DM1.2 billion in 1993, Helmut Werner, the president of company, said. Sales in 1994 were expected to show an increase of 9 per cent from the figure for 1993, to about DM70 billion, and sales of cars and light commercial vehicles were expected to increase by about 15 per cent, Herr Werner said.

China cash pledges fall

CHINA attracted $62.58 billion in pledged foreign investment in the first ten months of the year, down 31.5 per cent from 1993, the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Co-operation said. A ministry official said the number of projects was 37,735, down 44.8 per cent. The fall in pledged foreign investment was partly due because of government measures to cool investment in the real estate sector that drew excess funds in second half of 1993.

Employers pay record work-injury damages

BY PHILIP BASSETT INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

EMPLOYERS paid out a record £335 million in legal damages to work-injury victims, the annual survey by the Trades Union Congress on legal damages for its members reports today. It shows that unions are winning record levels of damages despite dwindling overall union membership.

The third annual TUC study of legal services provided by trade unions shows that in 1993-94 the amount won by unions for their members rose 8 per cent on last year's £310 million.

Unions took legal action on behalf of 125,000 members who had suffered injury or ill-health as a result of their work, providing them with free legal advice and representation against their employers and other compensation bodies.

John Monks, TUC General Secretary, says: "These figures show that unions are very effective at delivering the services that members need. Legal services are nothing new for unions, but insecurity at work, and new rights for European workers are giving us new weapons to use to help our members.

"Union legal services are a very good deal in what is all too often the expensive business of getting justice."

Monks: winning justice

Examples of successful cases brought by trade unions include:

☐ The construction union Ucatt winning a record £775,000 settlement for a member who sustained severe brain injuries while travelling to work at the Thorp reprocessing plant at Sellafield in Cumbria.

☐ £175,000 for a teacher suffering post-traumatic stress after trying to rescue drowning children from a sinking Greek education cruise ship.

☐ A fireman winning £82,000 after suffering extensive burns when rescuing people trapped in a second-floor bedroom of a house deliberately set on fire.

☐ £165,000 for a packing-team operator in Bristol who suffered a back injury when moving pallets.

☐ £100,000 for a furnace worker in the West Midlands who also injured his back while moving a heavy weight, after the employers' insurers originally offered £6,300.

Other awards included compensation for workers injured as a result of criminal assaults, such as bus drivers mugged for their fares, bank staff injured in robberies and prison officers attacked by warders, and people suffering from long-term occupational diseases, such as Repetitive Strain Injury.

The TUC says that unions are taking more equal pay and unfair dimissal cases.

Gold mines develop rock-burst warning

BY COLIN CAMPBELL, MINING CORRESPONDENT

LIFE will be a little safer next year in one of the world's most dangerous industries — gold mining.

Anglo American Corporation, South Africa's largest gold mining group, has installed a series of sophisticated devices at the bottom of several of its deepest mines which monitor, and give early warning of, rock bursts.

Earthquakes claim several lives annually in deep-level mining operations, and Anglo has devoted millions of rands to the study of an early warning system.

The group's Western Deep Levels gold mine in South Africa is already enshrined in the *Guinness Book of Records* as the deepest mine in the world. Having travelled down a number of lifts and tunnels, miners reach the workface 11,919 feet below the surface. At that point they are at the nearest point possible to the centre of the earth but are dangerously exposed to earth movements. Anthony Butler, a 30-year-old Canadian mine seismologist, says the ground at that level "shakes, rattles and rolls".

Along the West Witwatersrand, the geological lip wherein lies South Africa's most extensive gold deposits, Anglo has established three seismic centres. There are at least 28 individual seismic stations at Western Deep alone.

Each station is connected to three "geophones" — instruments that are embedded in the rock at various depths, and which in turn are connected via cable to computers.

The signals, in simple form, are classified as either "alert", "alarm", or "scram".

"Alert" indicates seismic stress that is building up and which could lead to a rock burst within months or weeks.

"Alarm" predicts rock bursts weeks or days in advance, which gives time for action that involves moving workers out of the area and then deliberately triggering the pending rock burst so as to release the stress.

"Scram" will signal a rock burst that is only minutes or seconds away. Statistics show that 70 per cent of those killed in rock bursts die at the mining face or within four metres of it. So even a warning of a few seconds can be enough to save lives.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 36

KNUT
(b) A fashionable or showy young man. 1916, E. V. Lucas, *Vermilion Box*: "Among the people staying here is a knut. He must be almost the last of the tribe; but here he is, just as knutty as though the Algies and the Berties were still ruling the roast, and not Mars at all."

MIMBAR
(a) The pulpit in a mosque. "The mimbar consists of three steps, and is sometimes a movable wooden structure, and sometimes a fixture of brick or stone built against the wall."

MEZZANI
(a) A type of medium-sized macaroni. 1895, M. Ronald, *Century Cook Book*: "The macaroni called Mezzani, which is a name designating size, not quality, is the preferable kind for macaroni dishes made with cheese."

LUNETTE
(c) A broad shallow mound of wind-blown material built up along the leeward side of a lake basin, especially in arid parts of Australia, and typically having a crescent shape with the concave edge of the crescent along the lake shore. "Deflated material is piled up as a curved mound of sand or lunette."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1 ... Be7 2 Rxc2 (if 2 Kd2 Rxe3 3 Kxe3 c1Q+ 4 Rxc1 Bg5+) 2 ... Bg5 3 Re2 e4+ 4
Kd2 Rxe3 5 Rxe3 Kd4 winning.

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The mandarin who dared to ask for two weeks holiday

JOANNA PITMAN

Every morning, Mr Tanaka rises at four in good time to do a burst of vigorous stomach exercises and clear his lungs out with some Sutra chanting. He shaves using a brush he has had for 50 years, breakfasts on home-made vegetable juice and yoghurt before putting in a 12-hour day at the office. In the evening, on the rare occasions that he gets home before midnight, he dines on a single grilled sardine, raw cabbage and a bowl of rice before retiring. Unless receiving guests he never uses a heater or cooler whatever the temperature. He contributes much of his salary to charity, avoids luxury and ostentation like the plague and has not taken more than two consecutive days holiday in 30 years. He considers work the most enjoyable of all things. "Working is my hobby," is his motto.

Mr Tanaka is a Japanese bureaucrat. That he exists in a Japanese strip cartoon is not entirely relevant, for he represents the elite of Japan's highest elite, a man of exemplary morals, intellectual attributes, self-sacrifice, an inspirational model for the real navy-blue-Terylene suited bureaucrats who march morning-til-night up and down the corridors of Kasumigaseki (Japan's Whitehall) and in whose hands the destiny of the country often seems to lie.

Japan's bureaucratic machine is a colossus of 860,000 mandarins constantly turning out and updating a plethora of rules, licences and unofficial guidelines. So tape-bound is their system that obtaining permission to move a bus stop ten metres can take two or three years: to open a supermarket requires dozens of licences.

In the financial services sector, some of the larger foreign security firms and banks employ "MoF-Pans", specialists whose task it is to spend as much time as possible inside the Ministry of Finance, gathering information and keeping contacts sweet. For those of us who cannot afford a full time fixer, contacts are built up over long periods of time. Years must be spent downing convivial cups of steaming sake and swallowing morsels of raw sea urchin before a name on a business card begins to yield results — and only then if you have managed to pick the right man (bureaucrats are routinely moved to new departments every three years).

Anyone who has been through this process, will enjoy Masao Miyamoto's *Straight Jacket Society — an insider's irreverent view of bureaucratic Japan* *. Mr Miyamoto was a psychoanalyst for 13 years living in the United States before he returned to Japan's Ministry of Health and Welfare.

The new job was a shock to the system. He found himself having to subdue his personality, muzzle his individuality and turn himself into a tiny cog in the vast bureaucracy.

The author recounts with an outsider's perspective that is rare if not unique in his situation, the extraordinary degree to which the group mentality dominates the bureaucratic machine and some of the problems this causes. He also regails the reader with his own, at times hilarious tales of faux pas and his frequent brushes with authority.

My favourite is the story of his request for a two-week holiday, met with absolute incredulity by his superior. "You can't be serious . . . it looks as though you've stayed so long in the United States that you're having trouble readjusting to Japan. You don't realise the responsibilities of a Japanese civil servant. Keep in mind that here, you're among the elite . . . believe me, the deputy director of a section can't take more than three days of vacation in a row. Look around you. Do you see anybody who takes 14 days off? I myself haven't had a single day off in the last ten years."

His descriptions of life inside the bureaucracy are as comical for the outsider as they tragic for those trapped inside. The reader is given a very strong impression that a government official in Japan sacrifices his private life for the sake of his work. Staying in the office as late as 11pm is considered natural. On rare days when everyone's work gets wrapped up early he is urged to go drinking with the gang. After that comes the karaoke bar. By the time it closes, he has to race to catch the last train home. On Sundays, it is group golf . . . or worse.

"I was surprised when I first went to work at the Ministry," he writes, "to discover that my colleagues would report to the office regularly on Sundays. Willingness to do so was regarded as a significant demonstration of loyalty. Conversely, failure to do so evoked considerable pressure to conform."

Mr Miyamoto came up against astonishing realities of group orientated behaviour. The more astonishing they seemed to his American educated mind, the more he resolved to test their rigidity. As time went by he managed to cross almost every line of "acceptable" behaviour, relentlessly questioning as a professional psychoanalyst the Japanese desire for group security, the willingness to do "voluntary" overtime, to conform, to suppress the individual, and the utterly compelling need to maintain the status quo.

Predictably, inside Kasumigaseki, the book has been greeted with a severely jaundiced eye. The magazine articles, written along the same lines, have gained Mr Miyamoto a reputation as something of an engaging rogue in Japanese society. The weakness of the book lies perhaps in Mr Miyamoto's tendency to turn almost all the events and procedures he so usefully describes into a joke, giving the whole a flavour of voyeurism and exposure.

Even so, the book is an entertaining guide to Japan's extraordinary corridors of power not something to be taken as gospel but certainly a good primer for foreign novices in Japan looking for a little levity on the business bookshelf.

* *Straight Jacket Society is published this month by Kodansha.*

RADIO CHOICE

The sound of music in film

Scoring for Britain. *Radio 4, 11.00am.*

The film historian John Huntley, who talks enthusiastically whether on or off the cuff, is in illusion-shattering mood this morning. His brief survey of British film music reveals secrets about William Walton's scores for Olivier's Shakespeare films. The famous "whoosh" of the Agincourt archers in *Henry V* was achieved by plucking elastic bands stretched over a board, and twirling cords fixed to a broomstick. And the battlefield clash of medieval steel on steel, also at Agincourt? Lengths of piping, banged in a gasworks. New to me is the story of the poor percussionist who was told by the director that he must put more feeling into bashing an anvil in *Caesar and Cleopatra*.

Evening Concert. *Classic FM, 8.00pm.*

I doubt if there is anything in Classic FM's licence to say that every bar of music in Christmas week must be festive. If there is, there is a wilful act of defiance tonight. It is Schubert's song-cycle *Die Winterreise* — a journey through a gloomy physical and emotional landscape. Sunlight breaks through now and again, but not for long. Mainly, these 24 songs (sung tonight by Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau with Murray Perahia at the piano) mirror the melancholy mood of the betrayed lover as he wanders through snow and ice. No wonder Schubert's friends were dismayed by *Die Winterreise* when he first performed it for them.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Claire Sturgess with the Early Breakfast Show **7.00** Lynn Parsons **10.00** Kevin Greening: Including Live Acoustic sessions from the past year **1.00pm** Clive Warren **2.00** Mark Goodier, including at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session's Live Rewind: featuring Oasis at this year's Sound City **10.00** The Story of Pop **11.00** Classic Concerts: *In Concert* celebrates 25 years **Midnight** Lisa L'Anson

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Martin Kelner **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Fiona Armstrong **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2 **8.00** Eurofolk in Concert: Loyko, a Russian gypsy trio of violinists **8.30** Songs Sung in . . . John Howson explores England's heritage of traditional singing. This week, he visits South Yorkshire **9.00** Sun, Salsa and Samba: the music of Brazil **9.30** Nigel Ogden: The Organist Entertains **10.30** London Calling (r) **11.00** Ivan Rebroff in Concert **12.05am** Patrick Lunt with Night Ride **3.00-6.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

Midnight Test Match Special: Australia v England **7.00** The Breakfast Programme with Peter Allen, including at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine **11.05** Yule Never Believe This! **11.35** Sporting Partnerships **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** the day's sport **7.35** Trevor Brooking's Football Night **10.05** Brief Lives **11.00** Night Extra, including at **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **11.35** Yule Never Belive This! (r) **Midnight** Test Match Special

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** News **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** *Just William* **7.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** It's Your Business **8.30** Megamix **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Country Style **9.30** Crisis in the Family **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Omnibus **10.30** Jazz for the Asking **11.00** News **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** New Ideas **12.35** Artists in a Nutshell **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** *Just William* **2.45** Good Books **3.00** News **3.15** From Our Own Correspondent **3.30** Two Cheers for 1994 **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** News **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Kaleidoskop **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **10.05** Business Report **10.15** Sports Review of *1994* **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Multitrack: X-Press **12.00** News **12.15** The Greenfield Collection **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Waveguide **1.40** Book Choice **1.45** The Farming **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Sports Review of the Year **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Assignment **4.00** Newsdesk

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Angela Rippon **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** Gardening Forum **8.00** Evening Concert: Sea Choice **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mark Griffiths

VIRGIN

6.00am Paul Coyte **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Gary King **7.00** N.J. Williams **11.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Janey Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather **7.00 On Air**, with Andrew McGregor
9.00 Composer of the Week: Rimsky-Korsakov (r)
10.00 Midweek Choice: Susan Sharpe presents requests, including **10.55** Ravel (Alborada del gracioso, Miroirs); **11.25** Falla (Nights in the Gardens of Spain)
12.00 The BBC Orchestras: BBC Concert Orchestra under Barry Wordsworth (r)
1.00pm Bach and Sons: Tessa Bonner, soprano, John Toll, harpsichord, Richard Boothby, viola da gamba. J.S. Bach (Gott lebet noch; Dir, dir Jehovah will ich singen; Komm süsser Tod; Sonata in G minor for viola da gamba and keyboard); C.P.E. Bach (Trost der Erlösung; *Passionslied: Am neuen Jahre*; Selma); J.S. Bach (Allemande; Bist du bei mir, Stolzen; Courante; Aria di Giovanni; Prelude and Fugue in B minor); C.P.E. Bach (Der Bauer; Trinklied für Freie; Tischlied; Fischerlied)
2.00 Early Risers: Luis Gago on the early music of Spain
2.40 Paris 1200: The Feast of the Holy Innocents. Mark Everist introduces music that would have been heard in Notre Dame in the late 12th century
3.00 Record Review, with Richard Osborne. *Building a Library*: Handel's *Messiah*
4.00 Procession with Carols for Holy Innocents' Day, live from Westminster Abbey
5.15 The Music Machine: Byte the Music (r)
5.30 The Changing Orchestra: Michael Hall introduces recordings by the London Symphony Orchestra made between 1928 and 1972
7.00 Speaking of Chopin . . . a Pianist's View: Chopin's singing style
7.45 Young Concert Artists' Trust 10th Anniversary Concert: Chris de Souza introduces a concert featuring past and present members of the Young Concert Artists' Trust. Mozart (Sinfonia Concertante in E flat: Priya Mitchell, violin, Philip Dukes, viola); Andrew Toovey (Concerto for two pianos: Joanna MacGregor and Andrew West); songs by Poulenc and Messiaen (Susan Gritton and Claire Rutter, sopranos, Ian Bostridge, tenor, Andrew West, piano); Chopin (Andante spianato and Grand Polonaise, Op 22: Anya Alexeev, piano); Ibert (Concertino da camera: Simon Haram, alto saxophone)
9.25 John Updike reads a previously unpublished story, *Scenes from the 50s*
9.50 Cello and Piano: Lowri Blake, cello, Caroline Palmer, piano. Schumann, arr Gendron (Three Romances, Op 94); Diana Burrell (Heron); Busoni (Serenata); Kulta Selle, Variations on a Finnish Theme) (r)
10.35 Ringlets: Götterdämmerung. David Holt presents the definitive introduction to Wagner's *Ring* cycle
10.45 Book, Music and Lyrics
11.30-12.30am Ensemble: Kathryn Stott, French piano music

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30**, News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Murderers and Other Friends, by John Mortimer **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Midweek
10.00-10.30 News; A Good Read (FM only): Michèle Roberts and her guests Ronan Bennett and Roger Cooper select three paperbacks
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Children's Radio 4 (LW only): The Willows in Winter, by William Horwood. David Suchet reads the first of an eight-part adaptation
10.30 Photo Appreciated: Katie and her friends sift through some promising replies (r)
11.00 News; Scoring for Britain (r). See Choice
11.30 Murder in Mesopotamia. Third of a five-part dramatisation of the Agatha Christie novel
12.00 News; Second to None: The Locum Vicar
12.25pm The Oldest Member: The Clicking of Cuthbert. Maurice Denham as the doyen of Prior's Heath Golf Club, in stories by P.G. Wodehouse
12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Journey to the Centre of the Earth: Jules Verne's classic Victorian adventure story
3.30 In Excess: Ideal Homes. *Armando Iannucci explores* an Englishman's home
4.00 News 4.05 On the Road Again: Third of a four-part journey recreating the hippy trail to India (r)
4.45 Family Feelings: Rent-a-Granny. The third of five stories for Christmas
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 News 6.15 Tides of History: Kevin Connolly visits the Arctic city of Norilsk (r)
6.30 Masterbrain: Featuring the winners and runners-up of the 1994 *Brain of Britain* and *Mastermind* competitions. Robert Robinson is chairman
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Night of the Hunter: Dramatised by John Fletcher from the novel by David Grubb. Starring Struan Rodger as the Preacher (r)
9.20 A Place to Lay One's Head, by Waldo Frank. Read by Bradley Lavelle
9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature: Simplify Me When I'm Dead. Sean Street reassesses the paradoxical life and work of Keith Douglas, whose journal of the battle for North Africa, *Alamein to Zem Zem*, has become a classic (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Diamond as Big as the Ritz. Garrick Hagon reads the third of a five-part adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's story (r)
11.00 One Born Every Minute (r)
11.30 Touch of Genius: The pianist George Shearing looks back to his early years in America
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM: 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Maxey

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Internal mining

ALGY CLUFF is clearly recovering well after the removal of a kidney stone. "Since Cluff Resources' business is digging stones out of foreign lands, that's what I call a reverse form of mining," he tells me. In reminiscent mood, he recalls two flips of his business life in 1994. At Cluff's annual meeting this year, at which his finance director, Eileen Carr, was up for election, a shareholder, questioning her abilities to deal with Zimbabwe, asked "Does she speak Shona?". It was the same shareholder, Cluff relates, who when he asked "Can I take the notice of meeting as read?", jumped up and bellowed: "Mr Chairman, I didn't fight the Second World War to have the notice of meeting taken as read." So read it was, and lunch was delayed by seven minutes. And at a December gathering of the Anglo-Hong Kong Trust at the Savoy, at which the then Margaret Thatcher was present, Cluff recalled an occasion when Hugh Fraser, Air Minister of the day, was asked about a new type of British aircraft. A member of the audience wanted to know about the plane's range and asked if it was capable of flying across the Atlantic. "Very nearly," the Minister replied.

FOR SALE advertisement in an Auckland newspaper: "*Waterbed. Husband moves too much. Wife seasick.*"

Singapore stint

MARTIN EVANS, the Extel-rated chemicals analyst who has been in the Square Mile for 11 years, the past four spent at Hoare Govett, is off in a new direction, with a new firm, and with a new brief. When the new year breaks, Evans and his family will be packing up and heading for Singapore where he will join Jardine Fleming and pore over Asian situations. In bidding farewell, Evans offered me a Singapore Sling at the famous Raffles hotel. In return, I had to remind him that should he read the Singapore market wrong, undoubtedly he will be flogged.

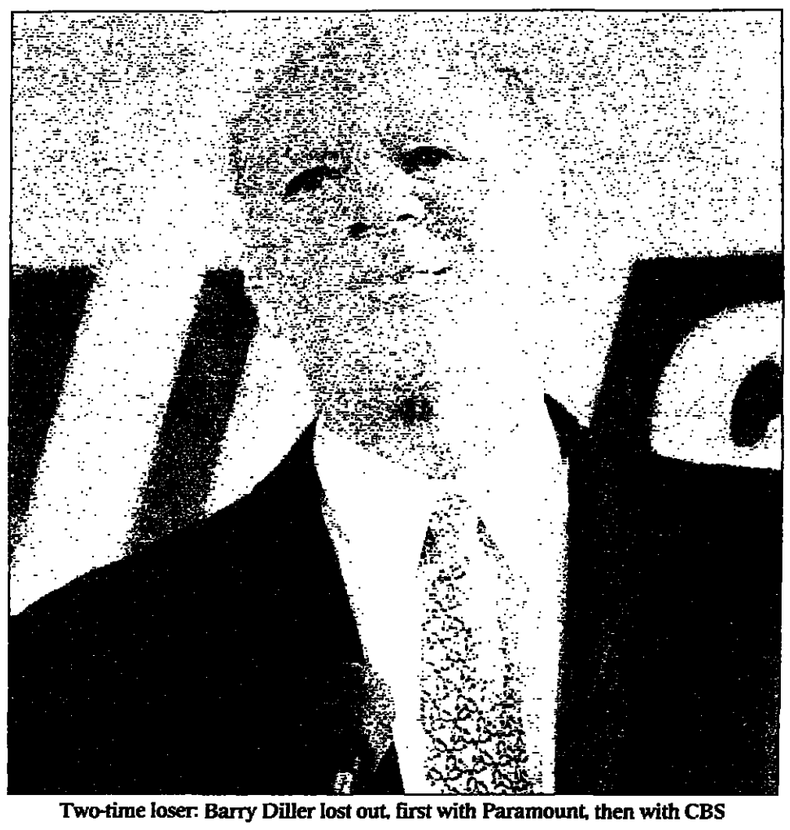
All in a name

SILLY job titles really are weird and wonderful. Financial recruitment consultants Accountemps has collected a host of unusual titles from Britain and America which include: procurement activist, graffiti removal trainee, vice-president (people), vice-president of retirement, outgoing manager, party chief and semi-senior auditor. "Titles go a long way towards adding prestige to a position and boosting employee morale," John Woodcock of Accountemps says. But, I wonder, who seriously would sport the following on their business cards: "Manager of Artificial Organs"?

COLIN CAMPBELL

Sean Mac Carthaigh looks back at America's business year

More weddings and a funeral in corporate US



Two-time loser: Barry Diller lost out, first with Paramount, then with CBS

Wall Street would have started the year with its eyes on Sumner Redstone, if it had known where to look. The Viacom chief was holed up with a team of investment advisers in New York's Ritz-Carlton hotel, dialling out for pizzas and Chinese food, and plotting a way to get between Barry Diller and Paramount Communications.

When Redstone emerged, he had done an $8.4 billion merger deal with Blockbuster, that gave him the power to snatch Paramount. Coining a new motto for corporate America, Mr Diller said: "He won. We lost. Next!"

George Soros, who took on the the Bank of England, finished 1993 with a personal pay packet that exceeded McDonald's world earnings — $1.1 billion. But on St Valentine's Day he stepped up for a shot at the Japanese yen, and took the bath of a lifetime. He backed the dollar, and his Quantum Fund lost $600 million.

The next mega-merger got to the altar, but the groom refused to show when the dowry was not big enough. Bell Atlantic was to get John Malone's TeleCommunications for $33 billion to create a colossus with every fourth house in the US as a customer.

But as the year rolled on and the US economy grew, there were more mergers, especially in a healthcare industry terrified by the threat of reform by the Clinton Administration. Among them, Eli Lilly paid $4 billion for McKesson's PCS Health Systems, Columbia-HCA and Healthtrust merged in a $5.4 billion deal, National Medical Enterprises bought National Medical Holdings for $3.3 billion, and Kodak sold Sterling Winthrop and Clinical Diagnostics.

Other deals kept traders on their toes: Quaker Oats bought Snapple, Forstman Little bought Ziff Communications and ITT bought Caesars World. Brokers' hearts beat a little faster when KKR arose from its slumber to snatch Borden for $2 billion. Federated bought Macy's, and Sears Roebuck spun off Allstate for $9 billion.

By June, Barry Diller and his shopping channel were back. This time he wanted CBS, for $2 billion, and he secured the imprimatur of Larry Tisch. But he was foiled again. Comcast and John Malone scuppered the deal by buying QVC. Meanwhile, at Disney, Frank Wells died in a helicopter crash. Michael Eisner had a heart attack, Jeffrey Katzenberg quit in a huff, EuroDisney kept on haemorrhaging cash, but the company made record profits with the success of *The Lion King* and *Aladdin*.

The defence industry shakeout continued, and Martin Marietta merged with Lockheed. Norm Augustine, Marietta's chairman, put it in stark terms: "These are Darwinian times in our industry."

The traders themselves would devour no more at lunchtime, at least not on Lehman Brothers' or Merrill Lynch's accounts. The abolition of the free lunch, costing $4 to $6 per trader, shocked Wall Street. Only Goldman Sachs promised to keep on feeding. But Goldman lost some lustre when a trader did the unthinkable and turned down a partnership.

Joseph Jett, one of the few high-flying black traders in New York, crashed and burned at Kidder Peabody, accused of inventing millions in phoney profits to boost his own bonus. He scorched all around him as he went; Michael Carpenter, chief executive, and several other senior figures resigned or were fired. Then came deep job cuts, and mass defections by top employees. Eventually, General Electric put an end to its eight-year foray into brokerage and sold the firm to PaineWebber.

Salomon Brothers lost money, but created a stir by paying one of its traders a bonus of more than $30 million, and Fidelity said its Magellan Fund, the largest US mutual fund, would not pay a year-end dividend because of an accounting error.

Tobacco shares fell with the cigarette companies being accused of encouraging nicotine addiction. At Philip Morris, Michael Miles, the non-smoking chief executive, resigned, and was replaced by a smoker, Geoffrey Bible. BAT battled the authorities to buy Brown and Williamson, and RJ Reynolds began a sell-off of its Nabisco food company.

United Airlines's employees bought the shop, USAir's workers tried to, but their offer was rebuffed. Confidence in British Airway's US partner plummeted after a series of crashes, accusations of lax safety standards, worker-management strife and a threat by Warren Buffett to write down his stake.

Back on the ground, Santa Fe Pacific announced its engagement to Burlington Northern, but Union Pacific offered the shareholders more. The big three carmakers announced record profits, and Billy Ford, great grandson of Henry, positioned himself to take over the company when Scotsman Alex Trotman feels like a rest.

In cyberspace, IBM outstripped all expectations with huge profits, launched the OS/2 Warp system and, with Apple and Motorola, announced a new chip to abolish incompatibility. Digital lost $2.1 billion over the 12 months to July, Bill Gates announced Microsoft's entry into the on-line service business, and Intel confessed that its new Pentium chip had a flaw.

There was bitter fruit in Orange County, bitter words as the Morgan Stanley-Warburg deal fell apart, and predictions of bears with sore heads taking the markets. Transport shares fell to a two-year low and utilities sank to a six-year low, but throughout the year, and despite the Fed raising rates by a third, the Dow Jones industrial average stayed in a band between 3,600 and 4,000. The aggregate earnings of the industrials almost doubled from the third quarter of 1993 to the 1994 Q3.

And, according to the analysts, Barry Diller is still at large and CBS is still in play; so if there are to be bears, they'll probably be juggling plates on prime-time TV.

Beware the ghost of policy overkill

GILT-EDGED

After his Christmas festivities, will Ebenezer Scrooge consider investing in gilts for the new year? The Ghost of Christmas Past would certainly advise him against it. Britain has a poor record on inflation and there have already been signs of the bad old days returning. Statistics for November showed a disappointing pick-up in retail price inflation and an accleration in earnings. The Ghost of Christmas Past would say this is the start of another wage/price spiral.

The next few months' data are likely to stiffen his caution. Recorded November price rises in clothing and household goods may unwind but, as Budget duty increases feed through, underlying inflation is likely to rise early in the new year to break the Bank of England's 2½ per cent target ceiling. Headline inflation will be given a further fillip by a mortgage rate cut falling out and will rise towards 3½ per cent.

Indeed, the Government appears to be shooting itself in the foot on this score, as its actions could add to wage/price pressures. The decision to recoup lost fuel VAT revenue with higher excise duties will, eventually, be marginally beneficial for the retail prices index. But in the short term it will accelerate the rise in inflation because duty increases take effect in December and January, while fuel VAT would have risen in April. Further base rate increases would initially add impetus to headline inflation by pushing up mortage rates, since each 0.5 per cent on mortgage rates adds about 0.3 per cent to the RPI. Average earnings growth is also likely to edge up further, reflecting slightly higher pay awards in the autumn, and wage demands still tend to stay ahead of inflation. The warnings of Christmas Past will seem only too relevant.

However, the Ghost of Christmas Present would be more circumspect, emphasising the weakness of consumer spending. There was a definite slowdown in retail spending during the autumn, with sales flat in both October and November. Some of this is explicable by mild weather, which affected clothing sales, and a bounce back is inevitable, particularly as Christmas Day fell on a Sunday, allowing a late spending spree. But this should not disguise the negative factors affecting households — tax rises, stagnation in the housing market, the debt overhang and long-term lifestyle uncertainties.

The weakness of spending has caused acute resistance to price increases in high streets and this is spreading to other sector such as insurance. One way suppliers hold prices down is by "de-specification" — cutting quality to hide cost pressures. If the measures were accurate, quality cuts would show as price rises. Even so, the statistics still over-estimate inflation because discounts and special offers, now commonplace, are hard to record. Moreover, de-specification shows that the current market is not conducive to escalating inflation.

The Ghost of Christmas Future would issue a warning against policy overkill. Both monetary and fiscal policy are being tightened sharply when consumer spending is fragile. Broad money growth is barely positive in real terms, emphasising the downside risks for the economy. In spite of the long lags in the economy's response to policy changes, the authorities appear to be reacting to historical indicators rather than basing policy on their expectations for the future. Their own forecasts suggest that underlying inflation will remain within target over the coming year.

So which Ghost will Messrs George and Clarke be listening to when they discuss monetary policy today? Mr George, more inclined to listen to Christmas Past, may think credibility would be gained by raising base rates before the Federal Reserve moves again. But Mr Clarke is unlikely to allow another rate rise just yet.

Even so, recent industrial production and unemployment figures show fourth quarter GDP growth was strong. With retail spending picking up over Christmas, another rate rise is certainly close. The gilt market welcomed previous rises and so may now be more inclined to listen to the Ghost of Christmas Future warning of overkill.

GLENN DAVIES
Credit Lyonnais

هذا من الاصل

هكذا من الأصل

Night with the stars goes out with a whimper

REVIEW

Lynne Truss

According to last night's hosts, Stephen Fry and Hugh Laurie, it is an incredible 22 years since the last *Christmas Night with the Stars*. And all I can say is, the wait was definitely not worth it. In the context of the resolutely post-modern BBC2, "stars" and "Christmas night" are things in inverted commas, so it was characteristic to dress the format in irony, and broadcast it the day after Boxing Day. But the joke misfired. In the event, **Fry and Laurie Host a Christmas Night with the Stars** (BBC2) was such torture that its only future is in clinics — as aversion therapy.

Nights "*with the stars*" are a naff idea, obviously — but it isn't particularly clever to send up a genre that died a natural death 22 years ago, or to present a whole 75 minutes of primetime television as though it's beneath you. With their wearisomely familiar ironic, tuxedoed smarm, Fry and Laurie contrived condescending links for weak material from cult comedians, interspersed with clips from old sit-coms, and truly it was hell on earth. The best "turn" of the night was from Ronnie Corbett, who did one of those long digressive jokes from a comfy chair, in which he dared to insert some funny lines. For the majority of the rest — Reeves and Mortimer, Rab C. Nesbitt, *The Fast Show*, Alan Partridge — the underlying joke was "We don't do this, you see. We're on BBC2", an attitude that does the artists no credit whatsoever, since presumably they accepted a decent fee.

Take the special scene from *The Fast Show*. When Paul Whitehouse and Charlie Higson's series ran to a small, Tuesday-night BBC2 audience for a few weeks this autumn, it built a loyal following for its regular sketch characters — in particular, the enthusiastic, fast-walking boy who thought everything was "brilliant", a dreadful Max Miller-ish comedian, and a tweedy, repressed landowner who made apologetic passes at his laconic Irish gamekeeper, Ted. In *Christmas Night with the Stars*, Whitehouse and Higson chose to do a special Christmas Day scene between Ted and his boss, full of the usual pauses and nuance, which would be meaningless to anyone except a fan. ("I wonder if you wouldn't mind pulling my cracker," asked the mournful squire — thus incidentally demonstrating how much funnier modern innuendo is than, say, Benny Hill's.)

Surprisingly, another rather cynical exercise was the nature special on **Tyto the Barn Owl** (BBC2), made by John and Simon King. True, it was packed with images of the barn owl in flight at sunset, and told the story of a year in a barn owl's life — all beautifully filmed in the wetlands of Somerset. What made it cynical was the way its situations were continually set up — for example, when Tyto was "accidentally" locked in the wrong outbuilding by a careless farmer, and forced to spend a night away from his needy chicks.

Wildlife photographers shouldn't create dramas like this, should they? I mean, even if you leave aside the ethics of interference, viewers are not stupid. When Bubo the young female barn owl swoops low across a country lane and is struck by the windscreen of a passing car, the viewer will recognise that this is no operation of chance, miraculously captured on film — after all, the camera was *inside the car at the time*. In fact, the encounter was filmed exactly as for a movie — with shots of the car, then Bubo, then the driver, the car, the owl again, and then "whack", bird collides with glass.

"The driver feels very personally responsible," says the narrator, soberly, as Bubo's body is laid on the passenger seat. Well, so he bloody well should, actually. Bubo is only stunned, it turns out: she flies off when the door is opened. But did the Kings deliberately concuss an inoffensive owl purely for the sake of television? None of the possibilities are encouraging. Either the whole thing was faked: or it was genuine but the car was driven slowly enough to guarantee no bad injury: or Bubo is really a stunt-owl with a crash helmet.

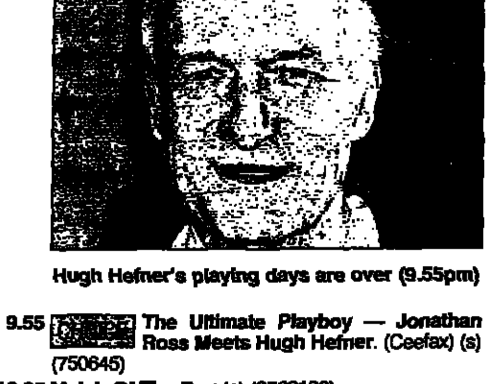
Back at the *Christmas Night with the Stars* ideological divide between ancient and modern, yesterday's **Flanders and Swann** (BBC2) was a priceless little show, using two rare television appearances of the splendid duo from 1962 and 1967. Here was prelapsarian telly — in the journey towards the pseudo-intellectual Fry and Laurie, Flanders and Swann were clever people who did not disdain to entertain their audience. "That two grown men can make a modest living by such means you may feel is an apt reflection on the decadence of the times in which we live," said Michael Flanders from his wheelchair, cheerfully.

The singer John Amis introduced Flanders and Swann, pointing out that the lyrics sometimes contain profound but simple messages on such matters as freedom of choice. Thanks, John. Sadly, Amis packed up his fancy waistcoat and went home — but he might have made a helpful contribution later when BBC1 showed **U2 — Zoomeranged**, the film of a U2 concert in Sydney. Instead of telling us U2's message (messages in capital letters were flashed continuously on huge screens), Amis could have helped out with the lyrics, which unfortunately proved completely inaudible.

Reading became one's only hope of keeping up. "Contradiction is balance," the screens flashed, at subliminal speed: "Reject your weakness", "A friend is one who lets you help", "A liar won't believe anyone else". Gosh, what profound, simple messages from U2. Such a shame they bought a job lot from a fortune cookie factory.

BBC1

7.00 News, regional news and weather (9598732)
7.10-1.00 Children's BBC beginning with **Secret Life of Toys** (r) (s) (9518596) **7.25 Felix the Cat** (9506751) **7.40 Marlene Marlowe Investigates** (r) (9744374)
8.00 News, regional news and weather (7576848)
8.10 The Adventures of Skippy (s) (4582041) **8.35 Swat Kats** (r) (s) (9266409)
9.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (5255206)
9.05 Bucky O'Hare (r) (8989596) **9.30 Why Don't You...?** (s) (38916) **10.00 Playdays** (r) (s) (1503428) **10.20 William's Wish Wellingtons** (s) (9568770) **10.30 Joe 90** (31515)
11.00 FILM: Candleshoe (1970) starring Jodie Foster, Leo McKern, David Niven and Helen Hayes. A Disney comedy about a conman who tries to relieve a wealthy widow of her money by passing off an American tomboy as her long-lost granddaughter. Directed by Norman Tokar (12750577) **12.40 Warner Brothers Double Bill** (96511138) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (14066596)
1.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (44732770)
1.10 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (27905393)
1.30 FILM: Please Sir! (1971) starring John Alderton. Big screen version of the television school sitcom. Directed by Mark Stuart (33093683)
3.10 The Story of Snow White. With Tony Robinson (revised r). (Ceefax) (s) (2797585)
3.45 Beatrix Potter: The World Of Peter Rabbit and Friends. An animated version of *The Tale of Peter Rabbit and Benjamin Bunny* (r). (Ceefax) (825312)
4.15 The Movie Game Christmas Show. (Ceefax) (s) (179770)
4.45 Roy Castle — Personality Plus. A tribute to the late entertainer. (Ceefax) (s) (5018799)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (674914)
6.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (436409)
6.16 Regional News Magazines (786916)
6.30 Telly Addicts Christmas Special (s) (935)
7.00 This Is Your Life. (Ceefax) (s) (610225)
7.45 Strange Stories From Weird Night. The supernatural experiences of ordinary members of the public (s) (419312)
8.00 How Do They Do That? Desmond Lynam and Jenny Hull with more instances of human achievement. (Ceefax) (s) (197225)
8.45 News (Ceefax) and weather (452515)
9.15 CHOICE **The Lenny Henry Christmas Special.** (Ceefax) (s) (426935)



Hugh Hefner's playing days are over (9.55pm)

9.55 CHOICE **The Ultimate Playboy — Jonathan Ross Meets Hugh Hefner.** (Ceefax) (s) (750645)
10.35 Match Of The Day (s) (2766190)
11.50 FILM: The Lost Boys (1987) starring Kiefer Sutherland, Jason Patric and Corey Feldman. Comic horror about a family who move to a California town where the local gang is made up of vampires. Directed by Joel Schumacher. (Ceefax) (733409) **1.25 Weather** (3199455)

BBC2

8.05 FILM: Playtime (1973) starring and directed by Jacques Tati. A Monsieur Hulot comedy in which the gangling, pipe-smoking hero wanders around a Paris of the future (99565206)
10.00 The American Civil War. The second of Ken Burns's acclaimed five-part television history (r) (66972138)
12.15 Yellowstone Aflame. The story of the four-month fire that engulfed Yellowstone National Park, beginning in June 1988 (815935)
12.45 Miss-Takes. Clips proving that television presenters should never work with animals (r) (96501751) **1.00 Charlie Chalk** (r) (44721664)
1.15 Sailing. The 1994 Ultra 30 grand prix (9218409)
2.00 NEW **The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures.** Dr Susan Greenfield asks how what we do, think, feel and experience is related to electrical signals to and from the brain (s) (50799)
3.00 Holiday Outings. A driving holiday around Utah and Arizona (r) (2147765) **3.15 Simply Priceless.** A quick look at some unusual toys from European collections (6200190)
3.20 FILM: The Crimson Pirate (1952) starring Burt Lancaster. Swashbuckling yarn directed by Robert Siodmak. (Ceefax) (60738003)
5.00 Verdi — A Life in Two Parts. Mark Elder concludes his investigations into the life and music of Giuseppe Verdi (s) (2596)
6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation. The crew of the Enterprise are helpless when Picard is kidnapped. (Ceefax) (s) (147409)
6.45 FILM: High Society (1956) starring Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra, Grace Kelly and Celeste Holm. A musical re-make of *The Philadelphia Story* in which the former husband of a society princess turns up on the eve of her marriage and tries to win her back. Directed by Charles Walters. (Ceefax) (85198886)
8.30 University Challenge. Trinity College, Cambridge, meet Queen's University, Belfast (1480)
9.00 Grace Under Fire. (Ceefax) (s) (637157)

Sissy Spacek as Liz Garrison (9.25pm)

9.25 FILM: JFK (1991) starring Kevin Costner, Sissy Spacek and Tommy Lee Jones. A drama documentary investigation into the assassination in 1963 of President Kennedy, focusing on the role of the New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison. Directed by Oliver Stone. (Ceefax) (s) (48797954)
12.30am FILM: Ghost Story (1974) starring Larry Dann, Murray Melvin and Marianne Faithfull. Horror movie about three friends staying at a mysterious country house for a weekend's shooting. Directed by Stephen Weeks. (Ceefax) (8698271)
1.55 Weather (3462707)

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CHOICE

Equinox: Incredible Evidence
Channel 4, 8.30pm

This valuable 90-minute special questions our assumption that scientific evidence is unassailable. By focusing on three cases, the film exposes the dangers of placing too much trust in video enhancements, finger printing or even DNA profiling. On the basis of a bloody finger print, Neville Lee was wrongly arrested for the brutal rape of an 11-year-old girl in 1991. By the time the real rapist had confessed, Lee had been beaten up in prison, lost his job and had his house vandalised. "It's completely ruined my life," he says. It is easy to believe that the newer science of DNA profiling might be foolproof. However not only have laboratories been found to make errors but in America DNA matches have been discovered in databases, despite the fact that an individual's genetic code is supposed to be unique.

Hollywood Kids: Kids From Hell
ITV, 9.00pm

A shocking programme in the series about growing up in Hollywood considers the pressure on children to carry guns and become members of gangs. "I've already killed a lot of people and that was when I was 13," admits one girl. Others talk about their fear on the streets and at school, while celebrities say that sending their children to paying schools is as much a question of keeping them alive as giving them a good education. Interestingly, Victoria Sellers (daughter of Peter Sellers) talks about her compulsion to mix with people from all walks of life. Two weeks after the interview she was arrested for receiving stolen goods. In the second half of the show there is a riveting analysis of the Menendez murder case, featuring interviews with both the prosecution and the defence.

The Ultimate Playboy: Jonathan Ross Meets Hugh Hefner
BBC1, 9.55pm

One of the richest men in the world, Hugh Hefner, founder of the *Playboy* empire, claims to have had liaisons with more than 1,000 women. In this interview he surveys a career which began in earnest 40 years ago when, at the age of 27, he gave up his job on *Esquire* magazine and set up *Playboy*. Launched in 1954, the first issue featured a nude Marilyn Monroe as its centrefold and never looked back. At 68, Hefner still lives in the luxurious *Playboy* mansion but the swimming pool, once surrounded by bunny girls, is now strewn with toys. Miraculously committed to just one woman, Hefner talks about his devotion to his children and family.

Lenny Henry with seasonal comedy (BBC1, 9.15pm)

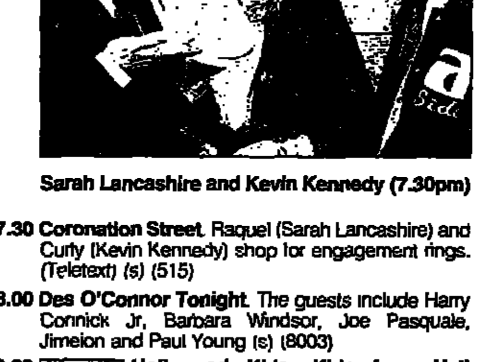
The Lenny Henry Christmas Show
BBC1, 9.15pm

Henry's stand-up routines are always worth catching but he is also a dab hand at creating larger than life new characters. This seasonal special introduces new blood such as DEEVA (Daring, Explosive, Electric, Voluptuous and Animal), a glamorous, pink-haired Amazon model and singer; King Ade, an African royal with unimaginable wealth; and TWA, alias Welsh rappers Taffies With Attitude. There is also a hard-hitting interview with an elf in The Henry Report and a spoof of the 1960s show *Shaft*. Special guests include John Fortune, Curtis Walker and Peter Wyngarde (as Mr Bad).

Stephanie Billen

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (6682428)
9.25 The New Adventures of He-Man (8994428) **9.50 James Bond Junior** (r) (1713664)
10.15 Bananas in Pyjamas (7488472) **10.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (3273745) **10.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1088436)
10.30 FILM: The Aviator (1985) starring Christopher Reeve as a tough aviator who begrudgingly gives a lift to a spoilt heiress. However, when his plane crashes in the wilderness, the pair must join forces to survive. Directed George Miller (15603645)
12.20pm London Today (Teletext) and weather (4632139)
12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (8759041)
12.55 Coronation Street (r) (Teletext) (8734732)
1.25 Home and Away (Teletext) (53135848) **1.55 Make 'Em Laugh** (80676577)
2.25 A Country Practice (s) (92873157) **2.50 The Young Doctors** (6238139) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (6234157) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6233428)
3.30 Warner Brothers Cartoon (r) (4510683)
3.35 FILM: Drum Beat (1954) starring Alan Ladd as a tough Indian fighter who is appointed to make peace with a troublesome tribe. Directed by Delmer Daves (93811312)
5.40 News (Teletext) and weather (606190)
5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' opinions (507698)
6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (751)
6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (913)
7.00 Brighton Belles (s) (3521)

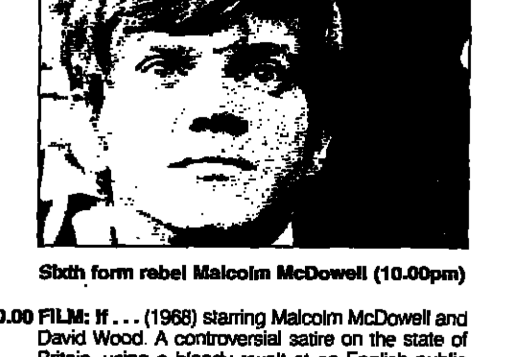


Sarah Lancashire and Kevin Kennedy (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. Raquel (Sarah Lancashire) and Curly (Kevin Kennedy) shop for engagement rings. (Teletext) (s) (515)
8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight. The guests include Harry Connick Jr, Barbara Windsor, Joe Pasquale, Jimeion and Paul Young (s) (8003)
9.00 CHOICE **Hollywood Kids: Kids from Hell** (Teletext) (s) (8867)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (468409)
10.15 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (705577)
10.20 FILM: The Fly (1986) starring Jeff Goldblum as a scientist who tests his teleportation machine on himself, with horrendous results. With Geena Davis Directed by David Cronenberg
12.10am Endsleigh League Football Extra (4496287)
12.55 FILM: Some Girls (1988) starring Patrick Dempsey as a student who has been dumped by his girlfriend. However, he quickly finds solace in her beautiful sisters. Directed by Michael Hoffman (336320)
2.35 The Album Show (s) (2484707)
3.35 America's Top Ten (s) (66624097)
4.05 FILM: The Great Balloon Adventure. Katharine Hepburn stars in this children's adventure about two boys trying to get an old hot-air balloon airborne. Directed by Richard A. Colla (9458271)
5.30 Scooby Doo — Where Are You? (9441558)
5.55 ITN Morning News (6899184). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.40am Terrytoons
7.00 Stunt Dawgs (74867)
7.30 Pro-Stars (r) (53374)
8.00 The Big Breakfast (34751)
10.00 Spacecats (r) (5840596)
10.25 Batman. Can the caped crusader save Robin from the claws of Catwoman? (Teletext) (5843683)
10.55 Terrytoons (2796428) **11.05 Tintin.** (r) (9035225)
11.30 Kelly. Our intrepid hero comes to the rescue of drowning surfboarders (r) (7409)
12.00 If Wishes Were Horses. The children visit a racing stables at Epsom (r) (s) (15577)
12.30pm Sesame Street. Early-learning series, with guest opera singer Marilyn Horne (95428)
1.30 FILM: Wonder Man (1945) starring Danny Kaye as a meek bookworm who teams up with the ghost of his murdered twin brother to bring his killers to justice. With Virginia Mayo, Vera-Ellen and Donald Woods. Bruce Humberstone directs (98618664)
3.15 FILM: Just Ask for Diamond (1988) starring Dursley McLinden as an incompetent private detective. When his client is murdered he finds himself in possession of a mysterious package which excites the interest of every gangster in Europe. With Susannah York, Patricia Hodge, Jimmy Nail and Bill Paterson. Directed by Stephen Bayly (97850954)
5.00 The World Indoor Climbing Championships from the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham. Indoor climbers scale a previously unseen ten-metre wall in the hopes of winning the world cup event (7664)
6.00 The Crystal Maze. Ed Tudor-Pole guides six more intrepid contestants around the four fantasy zones (r). (Teletext) (s) (33461)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (8393)
7.30 The Cosby Show. American family comedy show. Includes a guest appearance by the late Norman Beaton (r). (Teletext) (157)
8.00 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (7041)
8.30 CHOICE **Equinox: Incredible Evidence.** (Teletext) (s) (93374)



Sixth form rebel Malcolm McDowell (10.00pm)

10.00 FILM: If . . . (1968) starring Malcolm McDowell and David Wood. A controversial satire on the state of Britain, using a bloody revolt at an English public school as an acid metaphor for contemporary attitudes. Directed by Lindsay Anderson (Teletext) (62725886)
12.05am Black Christmas: Arrested Development in the House. A documentary on American rap band Arrested Development. This film goes on the road with the group as they tour America. Includes their visit to post-Apartheid South Africa (s) (296558)
1.40 LA Law. Courtroom drama (9231165)
2.40 FILM: Spiritual Love (1987) The season of *Chinese Ghost Stories* continues with this unusual romantic fantasy which tells the tale of a man who falls in love with a ghost. Directed by David Lai and Taylor Wong. In Cantonese with English subtitles (638097). Ends at **4.15**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 9.50am C.O.P.S (1713664) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (7488472) **10.30** Disney's The Richest Cat in the World (57538022) **12.10pm-12.20** Warner Cartoon (1422954) **1.55** Murder, She Wrote (2869428) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (6238139) **3.30** The Story Lady (192206) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (2299080) **6.30-7.00** Anglia News (913) **12.55am** Running (581405) **2.40** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (7702455) **3.10** The Album Show (7302146) **4.05** Bryan Ferry - In Profile (40242523) **4.15-5.55** Martin's Day (124875)

CENTRAL
As London except: 9.50 C.O.P.S (1713664) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (7488472) **1.55** Murder, She Wrote (2869428) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (6238139) **3.30** The Story Lady (192206) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (2299080) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (771515)

GRANADA
As London except: 10.15-10.20 Cartoon Time (7488472) **10.30-12.20** The Aviator (15603645) **12.55** Shortland Street (8734732) **1.25** Home and Away (27919596) **1.50** Highway to Heaven (2851409) **2.50-3.20** Coronation Street (6238139) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (2299080) **6.25** Granada Tonight Special (771515) **7.00-7.30** Brighton Belles (3521) **10.20** The Fly (620916) **12.10am** Endsleigh League Football Extra (4496287) **12.55** Running (581405) **2.40** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (7702455) **3.10** Album Show (7302146) **4.05** Bryan Ferry (40242523) **4.15-5.55** Martin's Day (124875)

HTV WEST
As London except: 9.25am Scooby Doo - Where are You? (8994428) **9.50** C.O.P.S (1713664) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (7488472) **1.55** Highway to Heaven (2843480) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (8205312) **3.30** The Story Lady (192206) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (2299080) **5.55** Home and Away (637698) **6.25-7.00** HTV News (771515) **12.55am** Running (581405) **2.40** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (7702455) **3.10** The Album Show (7302146) **4.05** Bryan Ferry - In Profile (40242523) **4.15-5.55** Martin's Day (124875)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (771515) **10.15-10.20** HTV Wales Headlines (705577)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 9.50am C.O.P.S (1713664) **10.15-10.20** Warner Cartoon (7488472) **10.30** Disney's The Richest Cat in the World (57538022) **12.10pm** Warner Cartoon (1422954) **12.20-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (4632139) **1.55** A Country Practice (35237393) **2.20** The Home Show (92865138) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (6238139) **3.30** The Story Lady (192206) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (2299080) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (751) **6.30-7.00** Evening Surgery (913)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 9.50 C.O.P.S (1713664) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (7488472) **10.30** Disney's The Richest Cat in the World (57538022) **12.10pm-12.20** Road Runner (1422954) **1.55** High Road (80676577) **2.25-3.20** Father Dowling Investigates (3402935) **3.30** The Story Lady (192206) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (2299080) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (42119) **12.55am** Running (581405) **2.40** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (7702455) **3.10** The Album Show (7302146) **4.05** Bryan Ferry - In Profile (40242523) **4.15-5.55** Martin's Day (124875)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 9.50 C.O.P.S (1713664) **10.15-10.20** Cartoon Time (7488472) **10.30** Disney's The Richest Cat in the World (57538022) **12.10pm-12.20** Cartoon Time (1422954) **1.55** A Country Practice (35237393) **2.20-3.20** seaQuest DSV (1081916) **3.30** The Story Lady (192206) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (2299080) **5.55** Calendar (764190) **6.30-7.00** Runway (913) **10.15-10.20** Calendar News and Weather (705577) **12.10am** That's Carry On (580694) **1.55** The Album Show (1865349) **2.55** A Matter of Wife... and Death (4000726) **4.10** Jobfinder (49769097) **4.40-5.30** Stuntmasters (9776252)

S4C
Starts: 7.05 Stunt Dawgs (9365022) **7.35** Prostars (8947886) **8.00** The Big Breakfast (34751) **10.00** Space Cats (44138) **10.30** Batman (2602683) **10.55** Terrytoons (2796428) **11.05** The Adventures Of Tin Tin (9035225) **11.30** Kelly (7409) **12.00pm** If Wishes Were Horses (15577) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (58770) **1.00** The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe (99756886) **2.45** Jules Verne's Rocket To The Moon (33957157) **4.30** Gamesmaster (428) **5.00** Zig And Zag Christmas Special (8157) **5.30** The Mousehole Cat (480) **6.00** Newyddion 6/News (790119) **6.10** 5 Pump 5 - Cellagell (145041) **7.00** Ma' Ifan' 'Ma (8393) **7.30** Brodyr Bach (157) **8.00** Pengelli (7041) **8.30** Newyddion/News (621480) **8.45** Teulu'odd Y Byd (611003) **9.00** Arolwg Chwaraeon (8409) **10.00** Brookside (16206) **10.30** Equinox (61003) **12.00am** The Beautiful Experience (94320) **1.00** Ellen (34436)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am DJ Kat Show (31708664) **8.45** Cartoons (54874461) **9.30** Card Sharks (70916) **10.00** Concentration (1459885) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (7969867) **10.30** Candid Camera (42645) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (13770) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (66225) **12.30pm** E Street (74732) **1.00** Falcon Crest (85765) **2.00** The Far Pavilions (96515) **3.00** Dukes of Hazzard (3775312) **3.50** DJ Kat Show (5050480) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (8312) **6.00** Games-world (4225) **6.30** Blockbusters (5577) **7.00** E Street (9041) **7.30** M*A*S*H (4461) **8.00** The Bible: Abraham. Epic series (34138) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (13645) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (771683) **11.45** Chances (689887) **12.45am** Barney Miller (72639) **1.15-1.45** Night Court (62252)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (7878003) **9.30** Entertainment This Week (92916) **10.30** ABC Nightline (73515) **11.00** News and Business (13157) **11.30** Year in Review — Politics (14886) **1.30pm** CBS News (87596) **2.30** Target (27867) **3.30** Amateur Naturalists (9683) **4.00** News and Business (5190) **4.30** Year in Review — Africa (1374) **5.00** Live at Five (6954) **6.30** Talkback (3119) **7.30** Year in Review — Politics (2003) **8.00** News and Business (3003) **8.30** Year in Review — Africa (16586) **9.30** News Extra — Aviation '94 (92138) **11.30** CBS News (82312) **12.30** ABC News (10423) **1.30** Talkback Replay (51523) **2.30** Target (98691) **3.30** Documentary (91356) **4.30** CBS News (87436) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (14502)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (6086022) **10.00 Big Man on Campus** (1990) (85848) **12.00 Munchie** (1993) (60190) **2.00pm Straight Talk** (1992) (37225) **4.00 The Portrait** (1992) (1356) **6.00 California Man** (1992) (17461) **8.00 Aspen Extreme** (1993) (29206) **10.00 Mr Baseball** (1993) (277848) **11.50 The Other Woman** (1992) (760428) **1.35am Doppelganger** (1992) (217097) **3.15 Gross Misconduct** (1993) (322610) **4.45-6.00 Munchie** (1993): As noon (8918542)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm Madame X (1966) (21567) **8.00 Tootsie** (1982) (71062) **10.00-12.00 The Getaway** (1972) (73577)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am The Man Who Never Was (1955) (13003) **8.00 Brer Rabbit** (1991): Cartoon (52867) **9.00 The Call of the Wild.** Animated version (7287138) **9.50 A League of Their Own** (1992) (68638393) **12.00 UFO Café** (1990) (68732) **2.00pm The Philadelphia Experiment** (1984) (35867) **4.00 The Care Bears Movie** (1985): Animation (2086577) **5.20 A League of Their Own** (1992): As 9.50am (59484436) **6.30 Special Feature: The Making of The Specialist** (7799) **8.00 Batman Returns** (1992) (90762022) **10.05 Accidental Hero** (1992) (662867) **12.05am White Men Can't Jump** (1992) (884879) **2.00 The Cemetery Club** (1993) (397078) **3.50-4.20 Love Can Be Murder** (1992) (37001078)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY SPORTS
7.30am Soccer News (7809596) **7.45** WWF Superstars (221732) **8.45** Soccer News (7250461) **9.00** Football Special (14935) **11.00** International Cricket. Australia v England (114461) **1.30pm** The World of Jackie Stewart (82848) **2.00** World Darts Championship. Live (465732) **5.00** WWF Challenge (2770) **6.00** Soccer News (127374) **6.15** Sports Classics (155157) **6.30** The World of Jackie Stewart (9935) **7.00** World Darts, Live (180916) **10.00** Soccer News (644867) **10.15** Shooting — Gamebore White Gold Cup (491799) **11.15** Sports Classics (897770) **11.30** Cricket, Live. Australia v England (4775577)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Aerobics (31190) **8.00** Skating (98683) **9.00** Athletics (71867) **10.00** Olympic Magazine (37374) **11.00** Martial Arts (57138) **12.00** Wrestling (80480) **1.00pm** Gymnastics (10119) **3.00** Snooker (3886) **3.30** Equestrianism (41206) **4.30** Football (44374) **6.30** News (4003) **7.00** Boxing Special (49119) **9.00** Motors Magazine (72312) **10.00** Snooker: Belgium Open (53799) **12.00-12.30am** News (53287)

SKY SOAP
8.00am Loving (1589480) **8.30** Peyton Place (1588751) **9.00** As the World Turns (8753770) **10.00** Guiding Light (8835732) **11.00-12.00** Another World (8655596)

SKY TRAVEL
12.00 Discover Your World (1599867) **12.30pm** Kids Down Under (7158596) **1.00** Roads to Freedom (8859312) **1.30** Cooking in France (7157867) **2.00** American Adventurer (4771119) **2.30** Ticket to Paradise (3837041) **3.00** Discover Your World (4783954) **3.30** The Way of Life (3849886) **4.00** Roads to Freedom (3826393) **4.30** Kids Down Under (3824577) **5.00** Ticket to Paradise (4735799) **5.30** Cooking in France (3849157) **6.00** Australia (7166515) **7.00** Discover Your World (4775935) **7.30** Around the World (3825206) **8.00** Travel Guide (7182480) **9.00** Australia (7179916) **10.00** Video Trips (1590596) **10.30** Cruising the Globe (1576916) **11.00** Pierre Franey's Cooking In America (9144428) **11.30-12.00** The Way of Life (4055138)

Michael Crawford as Frank Spencer (UK Gold, 7.00pm-9.45)

TLC
9.00am Joy of Painting (3455645) **9.30** Madeleine Cooks (4348225) **10.00** Talking Heads (8272022) **10.30** Only Human (7642461) **11.30** No Time To Say Goodbye (6951119) **12.00** Sanctuary (4338848) **1.00pm** Madeleine Cooks (1333912) **1.30** Joy of Painting (4341312) **2.00** Amanda (6626751) **2.30** Cholesterol (4068312) **3.00** Peak (6645886) **3.30-4.00** It's a Vet's Life (4070157)

UK GOLD
7.00am The Sullivans (3011549) **7.30** Neighbours (4566634) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (3467480) **8.30** EastEnders (3468751) **9.00** The Bill (3457003) **9.30** Buccaneer (6943867) **10.30** When the Boat Comes In (48638312) **11.35** The Sullivans (11050683) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (3477867) **12.30pm** Neighbours (4351799) **1.00** EastEnders (6966490) **1.30** The Bill (4343770) **2.00** Bless This House (6635409) **2.30** Citizen Smith (4060770) **3.00** Knots Landing (6957393) **4.00** Dynasty (6976428) **5.00** Every Second Counts (8331225) **5.35** Top of the Pops (8446022) **5.55** Terry and June (6049916) **6.30** EastEnders (4052751) **7.00** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em Special (5862374) **8.00** To be Perfectly Frank (4017139) **8.50** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em (1467138) **9.45** The Bill (1314867) **10.15** Top of the Pops (4676044) **11.05** Kit Curran (2397935) **11.35** Dr Who (4865645) **12.05am** Scotch 'n' Wry (1829829) **1.00** In Concert. John Williams (1319810) **1.55** Shopping at Night (13904962)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Droibee Time (66461) **7.00** Ralkan III (5903954) **7.15** Head to Head in 3D (3904867) **7.25** Garfield (7062461) **7.55** Saved by the Bell (8624916) **8.30** Super Mario Brothers (40634) **9.00** Zoo (3327954) **9.15** Cartoons (8543428) **10.00** Swamp Thing (20683) **10.30** Round the Twist (86190) **11.00** Eek the Cat (75935) **11.30** Beakman (76564) **12.00** Stunt Dawgs (40670) **12.30pm** Bots Master (27935) **1.00** Babysitters Club (59683) **1.30** Degrassi Junior High (26206) **2.00** Ghostbusters (1683) **2.30** SuperDave (8954) **3.00** Toons (8656683) **3.15** Bobby's World (802596) **3.45** Head to Head (3961008) **4.00** Bots Master (8026) **4.30** Saved by the Bell (9190)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Nick's Christmas Cracker (65157) **7.30** Denver the Last Dinosaur (44864) **8.00** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (61867) **8.30** Rocko's Modern Life (60138) **9.00** Nick's Christmas Pick (44190) **9.30** Clarissa Explains It All (70003) **10.00** Grimmy (35428) **10.30** Where on Earth is Carmen Sandiego? (40374) **11:00** Attack of the Killer Tomatoes (55157) **11.30** Ren and Stimpy (56886) **12.00** Pee-Wee (64954) **12.30pm** Galaxy High School (81119) **1.00** Doug (64428) **1.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (73190) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (7225) **2.30** Speed Racer (5596) **3.00** Where on Earth is Carmen Sandiego? (6732) **3.30** Hey Dude! (1111) **4.00** Nick's Christmas Pick (6848) **4.30** Doug (5732) **5.00** Clarissa (2652) **6.00** Grimmy (6225) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (6058770)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Life in the Wild (4059664) **4.30** Bellamy's Bird's-Eye View (4055848) **5.00** The Munro Show (6617003) **5.30** The Extremists (4079428) **6.00** Beyond 2000 (4327732) **7.00** Predators (5860916) **8.00** Invention (6646515) **8.30** The Search for Dr Livingstone (6625022) **9.00** The Infinite Voyage (5899428) **10.00** Into the Unknown (5892515) **11.00** Terra X (6975799) **11.30-12.00** Encyclopedia Galactica (8278206)

BRAVO
12.00 FILM: Ladies Who Do (1963) (8289312) **2.00pm** The Avengers (8277577) **3.00** My Three Sons (6832312) **3.30** The Beverly Hillbillies (4067683) **4.00** FILM. The Amazing Howard Hughes (1977): Biopic (6643428) **6.00** The Protectors (4063867) **6.30** Cannon (4861732) **7.30** Scotland Yard (4043003) **8.00** The Avengers (5866190) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (6950480) **9.30** FILM: In the Heat of the Night (1967) (9292954) **11.30-12.00** Garry Shandling (8265732)

UK LIVING
6.00am Agony Hour (2702770) **7.00** Living Magazine Highlights (8300480) **8.00** Beautywise (2254119) **8.30** Great Expectations (2246190) **9.00** A Taste of Japan (7707130) **9.35** Definition (6508954) **10.00** Trivia Trap (9259157) **10.30** The Susan Powter Show (2266954) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (8318664) **12.00** The Calendar Fashion Show (1866886) **12.35pm** Kilroy (9152041) **1.30** Bazaar (7240461) **2.00** Agony Hour (9250886) **3.00** Living Magazine (7637138) **3.45** Gladrags and Glamour (17391886) **4.00** Infatuation UK (5647867) **4.30** Definition (18684664) **4.55** Floyd's American Pie (4714886) **5.30** Kate and Allie (5627003) **6.00** Maternal World (5624916) **6.30** Mr and Mrs (5648596) **7.00** Living Magazine (9086480) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (9002428) **9.00** Cagney and Lacey (9082664) **10.00** Charlie's Angels (9085751) **11.00-12.00** Love Life (8339157)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm The Adventures of Tintin (2935) **5.30** Boogies Diner (3770) **6.00** Zorro (3193) **6.30** Through the Keyhole (1935) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (2799) **7.30** The Wonder Years (7119) **8.00** Road to Avonlea (71080) **9.00** FILM: The Time Machine (1960) (19867) **11.00** Lou Grant (36732) **12.00** Rhoda (32829) **12.30am** Big Brother Jake (63829) **1.00** FILM: Christmas Eve (1986) (45610) **3.00** Lou Grant (36252) **4.00** Rhoda (60523) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake (57418)

MTV
5.00am Awake on the Wildside (44320) **6.30** The Grind (23931) **7.00** Awake on the Wildside (44886) **8.00** VJ Ingo (636393) **11.00** Soul (57225) **12.00** Greatest Hits (48428) **1.00pm** Afternoon Mix (414848) **3.30** Coca-Cola Report (6111521) **3.45** Cinematic (1161026) **4.00** News (6739225) **4.15** 3 from 1 (6729848) **4.30** Dial MTV (8848) **5.00** Music Non-Stop (21935) **6.30** Live! (3393) **7.00** Greatest Hits (92190) **8.00** Real World 2 (2312) **9.00** The Worst of Most Wanted (97157) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (49157) **10.00** Coca-Cola Report (444954) **10.15** Cinematic (449409) **10.30** News at Night (283393) **10.45** 3 from 1 (288848) **11.00** The End? (48751) **1.00am** Soul (47184) **2.00** The Grind (51829) **2.30** Videos (795900)

VH-1
7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (8858683) **9.00** Café (8230190) **12.00** The Bridge (3290374) **1.30pm** Ten of the Best (9640022) **2.30** Heart and Soul (9398190) **3.30** Into the Music (7346139) **6.00** Prime Cuts (7135645) **7.00** VH-1 for You: Xmas Special (7175190) **8.00** Soul (7191138) **9.00** Ten of the Best (7171374) **10.00** The Bridge (8733916) **11.30** Today's Top Five (4057596) **12.00** The Nightfly (9018349) **2.00am** Ten of the Best (4307726) **3.00-7.00** Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE
Country music from **6am** to **7pm**, including at **4.00** CMT Delivery Room **5.00** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00** Big Ticket

TV ASIA
6.00am Persian Dawn (93515) **7.00** Asian Morning (10480) **8.30** Bunyaad (93480) **9.00** Bengali FILM: Sadharan Maye (378867) **12.00** Ghar (33596) **1.00pm** Serial: Sambandh (53409) **1.30** Kab Tak Pukaroon (13732) **2.00** Hindi FILM: Ghar Sansar (269645) **5.00** TVA and You (9461) **5.30-6.00** Bunyaad (7596) **7.00** BBCD (1041) **7.30** Serial: Zameen Aasman (6461) **8.00** News (7461) **8.30** Sport (6596) **9.00** Hindi FILM: Aaye Milan Ki Raat (273454) **12.00** Asian Morning (559184) **1.35am** Sight and Sound

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT
Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
Theme: Our Favourite Movies
7.00pm The Citadel (1938) (58356864)
Theme: The Write Stuff
9.10 Intruder in the Dust (1949) (39007374) **10.50 The Prisoner of Zenda** (1937) (73278577) **12.45am Little Caesar** (1931) (55160320) **2.15-5.00 The Unfaithful** (1947) (18607405)

CNN/QVC
CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel

UPBEAT FOR '95 32
PHILIP PANGALOS FINDS ANALYSTS KEEN ON SHARES

BUSINESS

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 28 1994

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

US BURNOUT 33
EXECUTIVE STRESS FOR MANAGERS WHO WIELD THE AXE

Discussions on life and pensions policies meet heavy weather

Insurers at odds over code for sales

BY ROBERT MILLER

BRITAIN'S top life companies are split over introducing a code of conduct to cover the sale of life and pensions policies.

The Association of British Insurers, which already operates a similar code for general insurance policies, has set up a working party to examine the issue. David Prosser, group chief executive of Legal & General, chaired its second meeting last week. But there is little enthusiasm for the initiative.

More than two years after the code was mooted, only five of the top 20 life companies have tried actively to get it off the ground. Privately, many have poured scorn on the principle of a code of conduct for life and pensions products.

Some companies feel that such a code would lack teeth. Others believe that any move to improve industry standards generally should come from the Personal Investment Authority, the new regulator for firms that sell investments direct to the public. The Prudential, for example, Britain's largest insurance company, with six million policyholders, says it will await the working party's report before making any decision.

The need for the life industry to act publicly and decisively to shore up its battered reputation has never been more urgent. Life companies face a collective bill of some £2 billion in compensation and costs over the personal pensions mis-selling scandal. And from January 1 they will have to disclose to consumers in a clear and precise manner exactly how much of their premiums are eaten up by commission payments and other costs.

Lautro, the regulator for life and unit trust companies, which is handing over its responsibilities to the PIA, found that the average commission deducted from a 25-year endowment policy was 90 per cent of the first year's premiums.

The idea for a code of conduct to cover life and pension sales was first floated by Lawrence Churchill, chief executive of NatWest Life, more than two years ago, when he wrote to the top 20 life companies. He says the response was mixed. NatWest Life is about to launch its own customer charter.

Andrew Bomphrey, of the financial services division of BAT Industries, which includes Allied Dunbar and Eagle Star, believes that an ABI code of conduct will do little to increase investor protection. He adds that responsibility for ensuring higher standards in the life industry rests firmly with the PIA. He says: "Codes of conduct are generally about setting minimum standards. Consumers have a right to expect companies to be striving to offer much higher levels of service than that. Given the broad church of the ABI's membership, which have such diverse interests, any code would be bland."

The proper forum for a debate on improved standards in the life industry is under the auspices of the PIA, which already sets out minimum standards in its rule book. But Mr Bomphrey says: "We are very worried that the PIA is not consulting the industry enough. It lacks practioner input."

Ken Bignall, the chairman of Barclays Life, would like any suggestions from the ABI working party to be incorporated into the PIA's existing rules.

The working party will take time to reach a conclusion. The association's figures show that new business was down 13 per cent after the third quarter of the year, which means investors are holding back from making important decisions about their future financial well-being. That cannot be good news.

Splendid isolation: David Prosser, of Legal & General, is finding that his working party on a code of conduct for selling life and pensions policies is attracting little enthusiasm

ITT sells finance businesses

ITT Corporation, the US entertainment, insurance and manufacturing group, said yesterday that it expected to receive a combined cash injection of $3.7 billion from two separate sales of finance businesses and confirmed that it was in talks to sell a third for $1.8 billion (Sean Mac Carthaigh writes).

The company, parent of the Sheraton hotel chain, is focusing on entertainment. Its commercial finance unit is to be sold to the US subsidiary of Deutsche Bank, and Norwest is to buy its consumer finance unit. ITT shares rose sharply on the New York exchange.

☐ Wall Street shares made a strong advance after the Christmas holiday. The Dow Jones industrial average at midday was up 28.6 points to 3862.03

Wall Street prices, page 32
US burnout, page 33
Corporate US, page 34

Boardroom optimism falls to two-year low in IoD survey

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BUSINESS confidence among company directors has fallen sharply to its lowest for two years, according to a survey from the Institute of Directors. The institute attributes this to the trend to higher interest rates and the travails of the Government over the Budget.

The findings will make gloomy reading for ministers, and suggest that the Government's political problems could now damage the economy. Directors are also worried about inflationary pressures arising from the cost of labour and raw materials.

In its latest bi-monthly survey, the IoD acknowledges that the UK economy grew strongly in 1994, but says that it is "unclear whether growth will continue at such a healthy rate in 1995". It says that it is "generally accepted that the current rate of growth is too high", but argues that its latest survey of members "reveals an erosion of confidence in the economy".

The balance of directors optimistic about the economy — those who are more confident set against those who are less so — has fallen back from 26 to 18 per cent. The proportion who are more optimistic is down from 43 per cent in October to 38 per cent in the latest survey — the lowest IoD figure since December 1992.

By far the single biggest factor reducing optimism was the political situation — cited by 46 per cent, up from 25 per cent in the last survey, in October. The IoD links this to the survey being taken over a period that included the Budget, the Government's Commons defeat over VAT on fuel, the subsequent mini-Budget and the interest rate rise, and says in defence of its members that "it is perhaps not surprising that confidence has taken a bit of a battering".

The institute says that the rate rise, less than 12 hours after the Government's defeat in the Commons, "smacked of a political, rather than an economic, decision".

The survey is the first from the IoD to show concern among directors about inflationary pressures in the economy. Supply problems, such as the cost and availability of raw materials and labour, now rank as the main business concern for 18 per cent of directors, up from 12 per cent in the last survey, equalling worries about overall demand. Investment intentions are a little weaker.

However, the free-market IoD believes that its survey supports the idea of continued strong growth in the economy. Michael Taylor, IoD economist, says: "Despite the fall in confidence shown in these results, the UK economy is growing strongly and the prospects for sustained growth in 1995 are good."

Companies should do nothing to encourage any inflationary tendencies in the economy and should increase investment and refrain from "unjustified" pay rises. Monetary policy should make clear that inflationary pay rises will not be accommodated.

☐ The IoD is urging ministers to resume investment in Britain's trunk road network. Seventy-two per cent of directors surveyed said the Government should continue to improve communications by bypass-building and road-widening.

Pay-study challenge, page 33

Clarke likely to put off rate rise

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH CLARKE, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, meet today to discuss interest rates with nearly all outsiders assuming they will not raise them again so soon after the last move on December 7. Today's meeting has been brought forward from early January because the Chancellor leaves for a two-week Far East trade mission at the end of this week.

Base rates were increased from 5.75 per cent to 6.25 per cent after the last meeting, which was rushed through early on the morning after the Government's defeat over VAT on fuel.

There is widespread expectation in the City that the authorities will move rates higher again in the spring when inflation will temporarily be rising as a result of increased excise duties and the new batch of higher taxes due to take effect in April. After that, with inflation expected to ease back again and the impact of tax rises being felt, it would be more difficult for the authorities to justify tighter money.

Mr George told the Treasury Select Committee in his appearance after the Budget that he hoped that interest rates would plateau soon, suggesting that he will be pushing for another increase and that he would prefer this to be enacted sooner rather than later.

Set against this is Mr Clarke's concern, expressed in the minutes of the monthly monetary meeting at the start of November, about the weakness of the consumer sector and the possible further impact from next year's tax increases.

The consensus among City and independent forecasters is that interest rates will rise to around 7 per cent by the fourth quarter of 1995.

Gilt-Edged, page 34

Brighter new year for Japan

Murayama: deregulating

BY GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

A SHARP jump in industrial production and a long-delayed fall in unemployment are certain to propel Japan's businessmen into their extended new year break with renewed confidence that Japan's recovery is finally under way. The economy is likely to have grown by only 0.8 per cent during 1994 as a whole, the third dismal year in a row.

Industrial production jumped by 2.7 per cent in November after shrinking by 0.6 per cent in October. Much of the rise is, however, seasonal and a fall is expected in December before a further recovery in January.

The leap in output helped cut unemployment for the first time in seven months, bringing the jobless rate down to 2.9 per cent from its highest level for seven years. But there are still 250,000 fewer people in work than in November 1993.

Further signs of recovery were shown in a series of statistics issued yesterday, recording November retail sales up 0.3 per cent on a year earlier, and a 21 per cent rise in orders for big construction companies.

The recession and the rise in the exchange value of the yen are still keeping inflation low. The consumer prices index fell by 0.3 per cent in November, leaving prices just 1 per cent higher than a year ago.

In a pre-holiday message to the Keidanren, Japan's main employers' organisation, Tomiichi Murayama, the Prime Minister, said the Government's main priority in 1995 to increase the rate of growth was to deregulate more of the economy. He said: "We will stake the future of our cabinet on the promotion of deregulation in Japan".

Measures include greater freedom for small companies to gain share quotation, the use of hedging techniques by state savings institutions and a likely attack on the salt monopoly.

Tokyo shares, page 32
Oil deregulation, page 33
Daring mandarin, page 34

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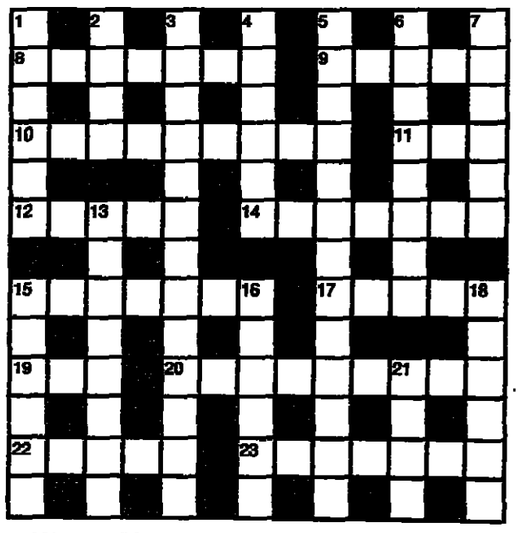
TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 355



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ACROSS

8 Prevaricatory (7)
9 Fully grown (5)
10 New husband's/wife's offspring (9)
11 Cut off (large unwanted part) (3)
12 Hot spiced port and lemon (5)
14 Dampen (7)
15 Fir-tree (7)
17 Intuition (5)
19 Sheep; batter (3)
20 Involved, confusing situation (9)
22 Cigarette-lighter; contest (5)
23 Enthusiastic (when waxed) (7)

DOWN

1 Think logically (6)
2 Piece of window glass (4)
3 Old Spanish dollars (6,2,5)
4 Ennui (6)
5 Advertising medium hung over shoulders (8-5)
6 News announcement (8)
7 Intervene (4,2); (garment) needing no unfastening (4-2)
13 Firearm maker (8)
15 Plating, eg for car fitting (6)
16 Collapsed stone, brickwork (6)
18 Fairground game (4-2)
21 Defeat; 14 with tongue (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 354

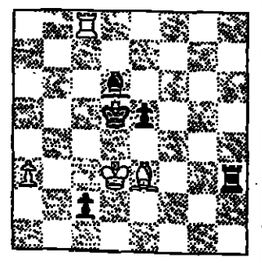
ACROSS: 1 Seldom 4 Abound 9 Angular 10 Midas 11 Plumb 13 Watteau 14 Bel 15 Yahoo 16 Bit 17 Nuptial 19 Sonic 21 Iliad 22 Neptune 24 Go/down 25 Statue

DOWN: 1 Sharp 2 Leg-pull 3 Owl 5 Bumptious 6 Undue 7 Disgust 8 Draw the line 12 Bay window 14 Bunting 16 Banquet 18 Plied 20 Crepe 23 Pat

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Steiner - Alekhine, Budapest 1921. In this endgame, Black is a pawn up and has a useful pin against the white bishop. However, White is threatening to capture Black's pawn on c2 when a draw could be the result. How did Alekhine circumvent this and force victory?



Solution, page 33
Raymond Keene, page 5

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

KNUT
a. A large shell
b. A fashionable young man
c. A ring doughnut

MIMBAR
a. The pulpit in a mosque
b. A cultivated field
c. A period of rest

MEZZANI
a. A medium sized macaroni
b. An entrance hall
c. A linguist

LUNETTE
a. A prehistoric stone
b. A small moon
c. A shallow mound

Answers on page 33

هذا من الاصل